



48 PAGES--EVERY WEEK!

# ACTION

COMICS WEEKLY

NO. 626

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U.K. 60p

## GREEN LANTERN FLIES FREE!

PLUS!

SHAZAM!  
SECRET SIX  
SUPERMAN  
DEADMAN  
BLACK CANARY





# GREEN LANTERN

## BETHEL

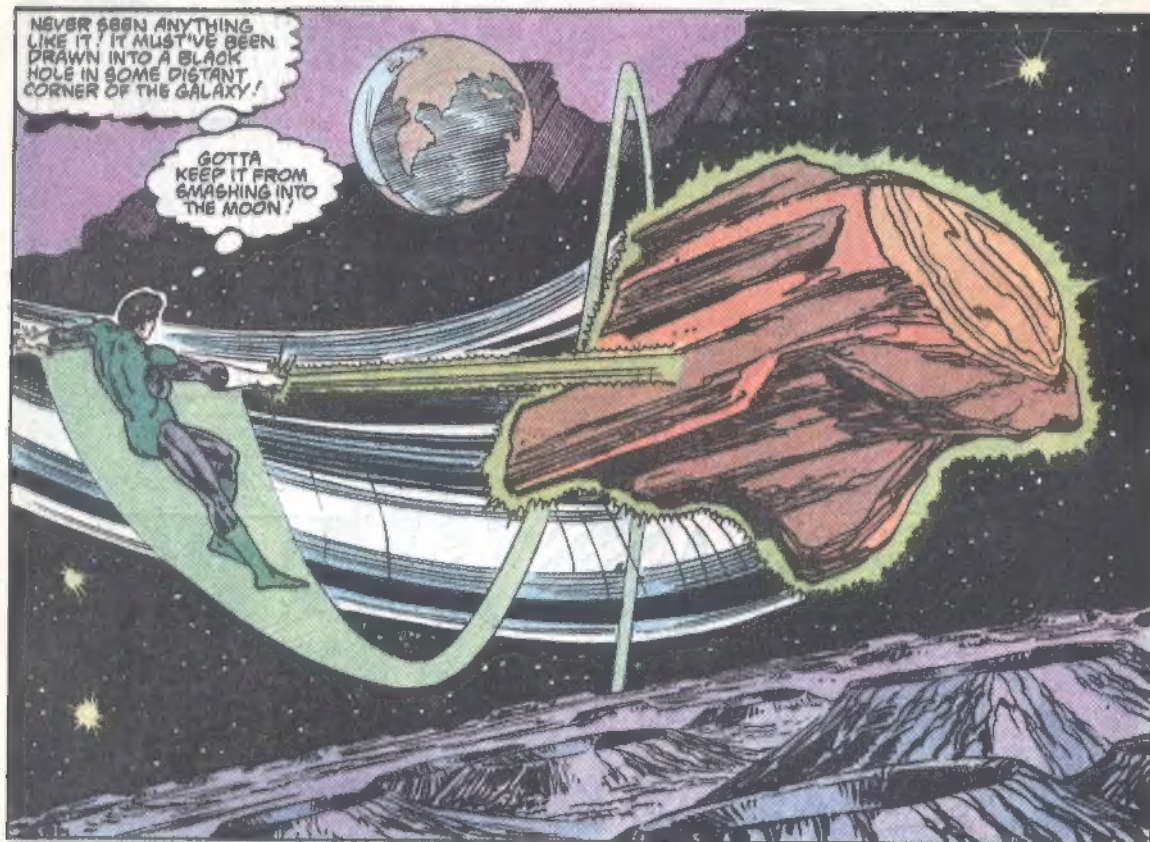
IT'S TAKEN HAL JORDAN, THE GREEN LANTERN OF SPACE SECTOR 2814, NEARLY A WEEK TO GET HOME.

NOW, ONLY A STONE'S THROW AWAY FROM EARTH, A WORMHOLE SUDDENLY OPENS UP, SPEWING FORTH AN ODD VESSEL!

WHAT'S THAT?!

By  
JAMES M.D.  
OWSLEY & BRIGHT  
SCRIPT / PLOT / PENCILS  
ROMEO TANGHAL - INKS  
ALBERT DE GUZMAN - LETTERS  
ANTHONY TOLLIN - COLORS  
DAN RASPLER - ASST. EDITOR  
DENNIS O'NEIL - EDITOR





NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT! IT MUST'VE BEEN DRAWN INTO A BLACK HOLE IN SOME DISTANT CORNER OF THE GALAXY!

GOTTA KEEP IT FROM SMASHING INTO THE MOON!



NOW... IS THIS FRIEND OR FOE? ODD... THE SHIP SEEMS TO BE MADE OF...

...WOOD.



MY RING'S NOT PICKING UP ANY KNOWN SUBSPACE FREQUENCY! THE OPERATIVE ADJECTIVE BEING "KNOWA."

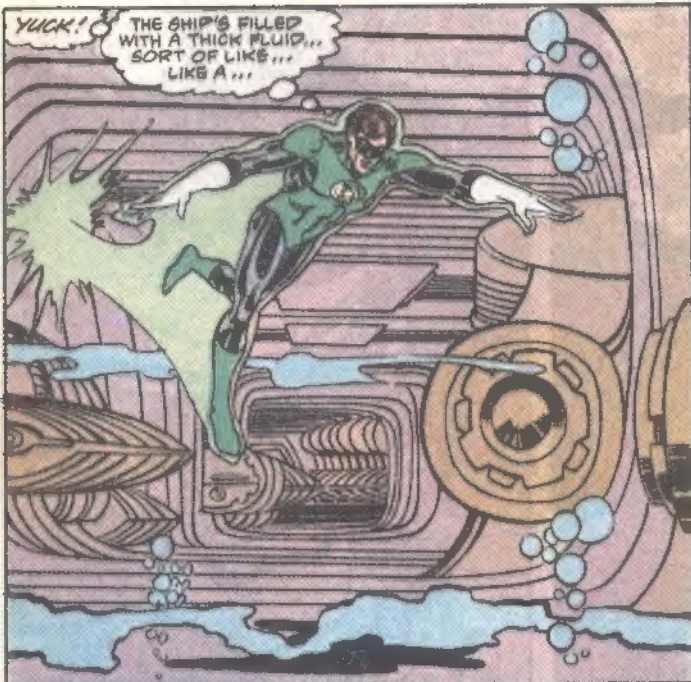
ONCE, MY RING COULD'VE TAPPED THE COMPUTERS WITHIN OA'S MAIN POWER BATTERY FOR DATA ON ANY OF COUNTLESS FORMS OF ALIEN TECHNOLOGY!

SINCE THE BATTERY'S DESTRUCTION, I'VE BEEN LARGELY LEFT ON MY OWN WHEN IT COMES TO STUFF LIKE THIS!



GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE A LOOK!





YUCK!

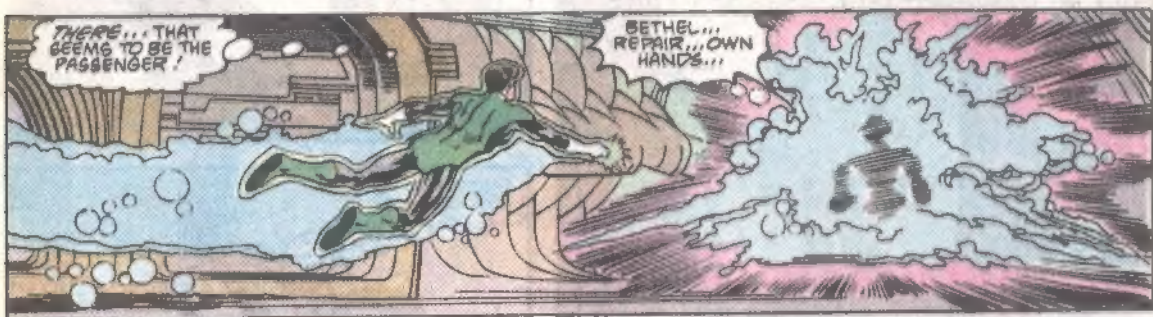
THE SHIP'S FILLED  
WITH A THICK FLUID...  
SORT OF LIKE...  
LIKE A...



... LIKE A WOMAN  
ACTUALLY IT'S REAL  
PEACEFUL IN HERE...  
SERENE.

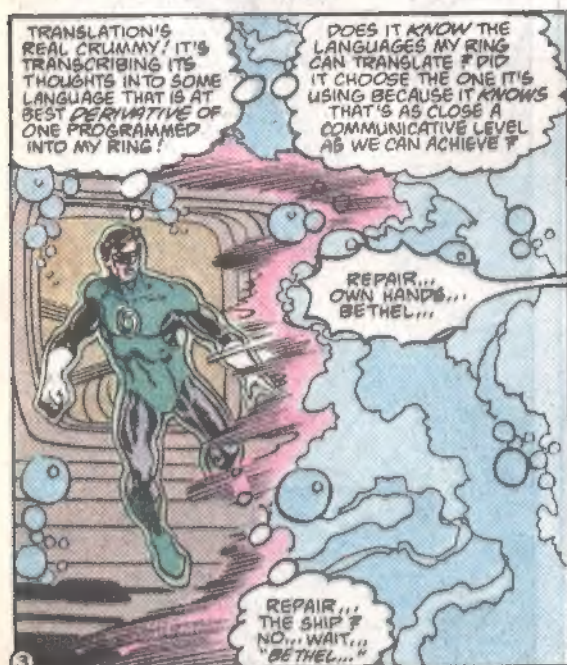
I'M NOT PICKING  
UP ANY HOSTILE  
VIBES... ALTHOUGH  
"HOSTILE" IS A  
RELATIVE TERM.

WHAT  
EXACTLY  
CONSTITUTES  
HOSTILITY TO  
AN ALIEN  
RACE?



THERE... THAT  
SEEMS TO BE THE  
PASSENGER!

BETHEL...  
REPAIR... OWN  
HANDS...



TRANSLATION'S  
REAL CRUMMY! IT'S  
TRANSCRIBING ITS  
THOUGHTS INTO SOME  
LANGUAGE THAT IS AT  
BEST DERIVATIVE OF  
ONE PROGRAMMED  
INTO MY RING!

DOES IT KNOW THE  
LANGUAGES MY RING  
CAN TRANSLATE? DID  
IT CHOOSE THE ONE IT'S  
USING BECAUSE IT KNOWS  
THAT'S AS CLOSE A  
COMMUNICATIVE LEVEL  
AS WE CAN ACHIEVE?

REPAIR...  
OWN HANDS...  
BETHEL...

REPAIR...  
THE SHIP? NO... WAIT...  
BETHEL...



THIS ISN'T A  
SHIP... IT'S A  
SHRINE!

THIS ALIEN MUST, BY  
RELIGIOUS CUSTOM, REPAIR  
IT WITH ITS OWN HANDS  
BEFORE CONTINUING ITS  
JOURNEY!

KNOCK!  
KNOCK!

WOOD,  
HUN?

WELL,  
I KNOW  
WHERE  
THERE'S  
LOTS OF  
THAT...



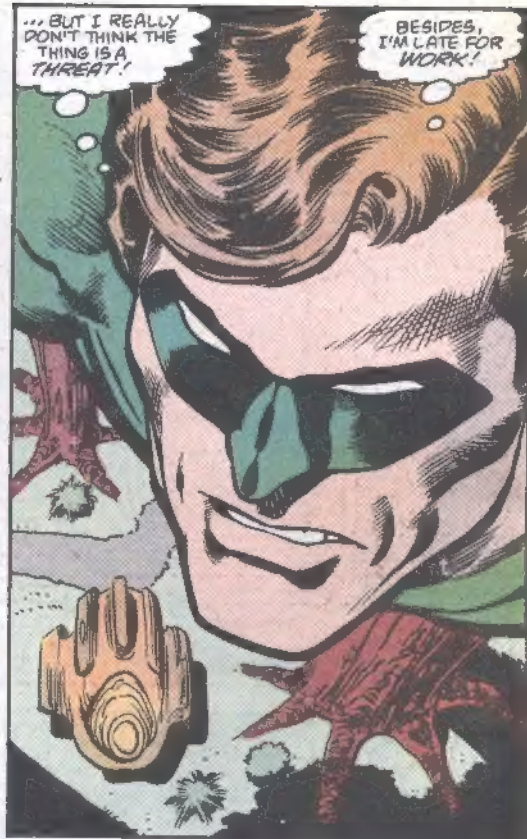
SOON, IN  
NORTHERN  
CALIFORNIA...

THE ALIEN OUGHT TO BE  
SAFE UP HERE! IT SHOULDN'T  
TAKE LONG TO REPAIR ITS  
SHRINE AND BE ON ITS  
WAY!

I PROBABLY  
SHOULD HANG  
AROUND AND KEEP  
AN EYE ON THE  
THING...

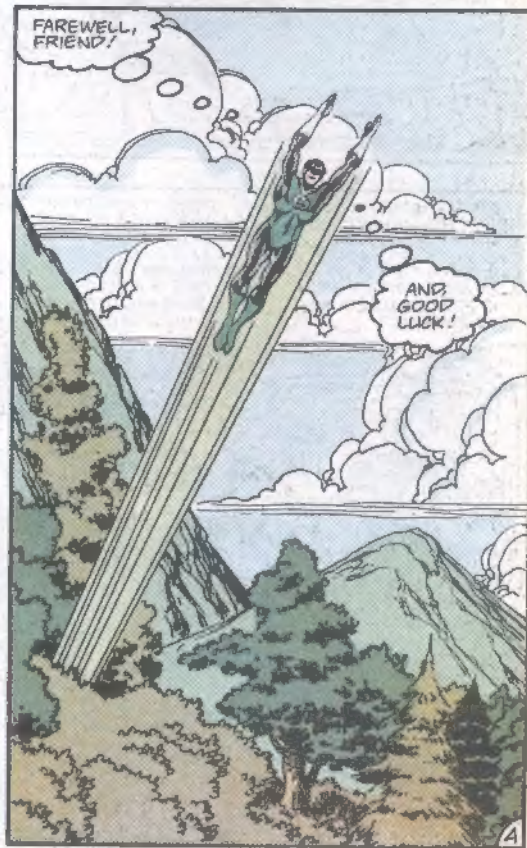
... BUT I REALLY  
DON'T THINK THE  
THING IS A  
THREAT!

BESIDES,  
I'M LATE FOR  
WORK!



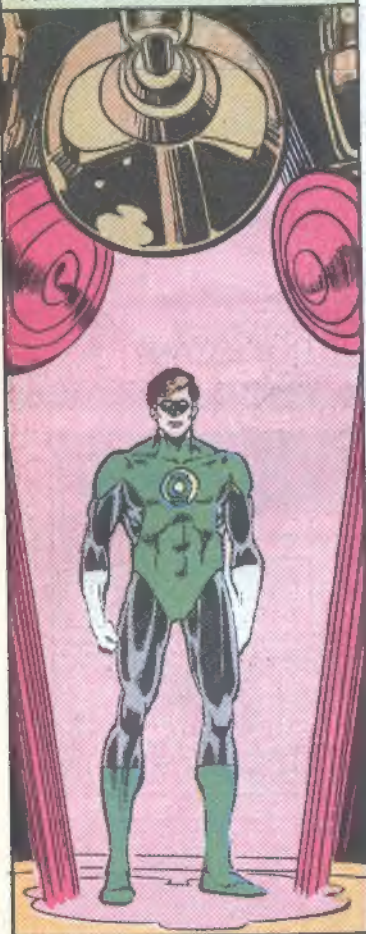
FAREWELL,  
FRIEND!

AND  
GOOD  
LUCK!





AND, INSIDE THE SHRINE, AN ODD TRANSFORMATION TAKES PLACE.



THE VISITOR IS COMPOSED OF PURE ENERGY. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE SHRINE'S REPAIR IT IS LOGICAL FOR THE VISITOR TO ASSUME A LIFE FORM THAT IS MORE COMPATIBLE WITH ITS SURROUNDINGS.

IT USES THE ONLY AVAILABLE EXAMPLE.



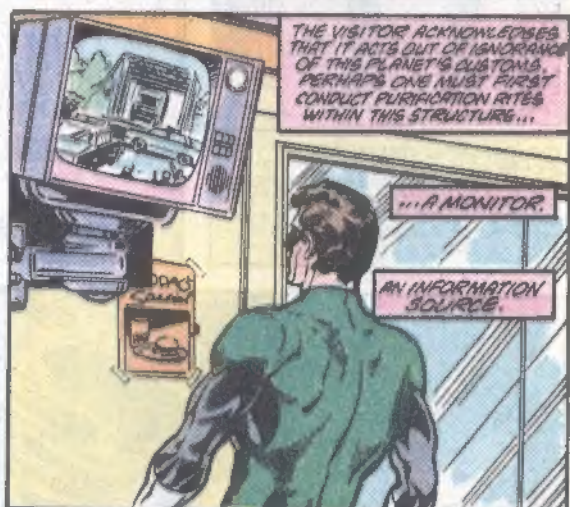
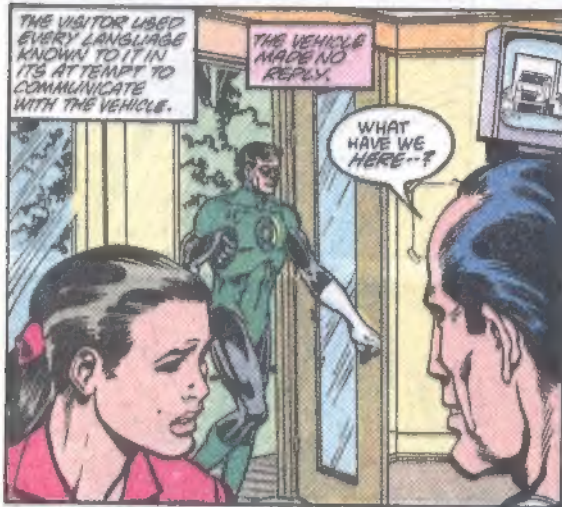
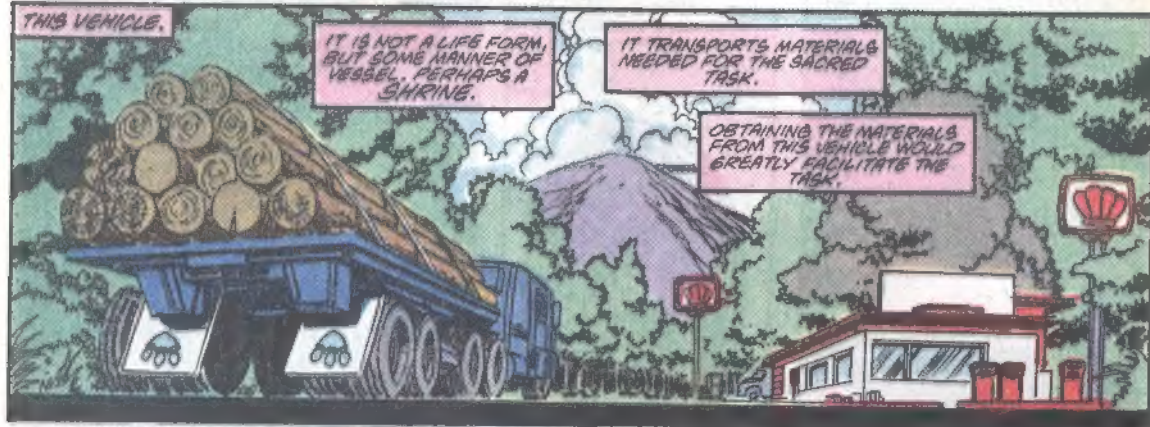
NOW TO BEGIN ITS SACRED TASK.



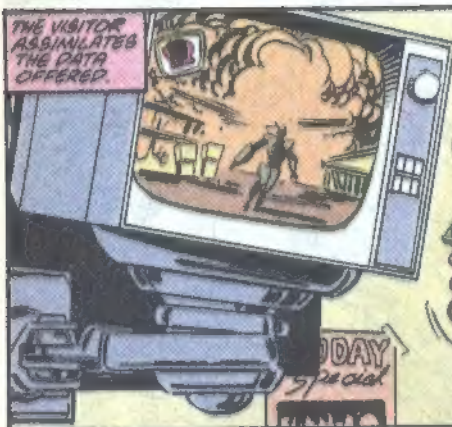
THE VISITOR IS MOMENTARILY PUZZLED BY A DEAFENING ROAR.

THE SOURCE IS SOME EIGHT MILES SOUTH.









THE VISITOR ASSIMILATES THE DATA OFFERED.

AMONG ITS KIND, THERE IS NO KNOWN CLASSIFICATION FOR THE OBSERVED BEHAVIOR.

HEY, TINKER-BELL, I'M TALKIN' TO YOU...!!



HOWEVER, WHEN IN ROME...



!GASP!?

LORD...



FASCINATING.

THE VISITOR KNOWS NEITHER HOSTILITY NOR BENEFICENCE.

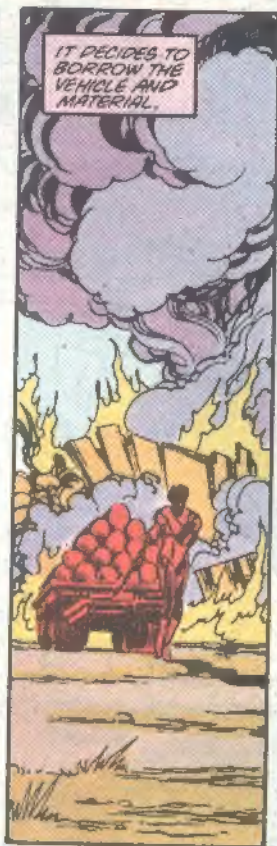
GOOD NOR EVIL.

IT DECIDES TO OFFER A GREETING.

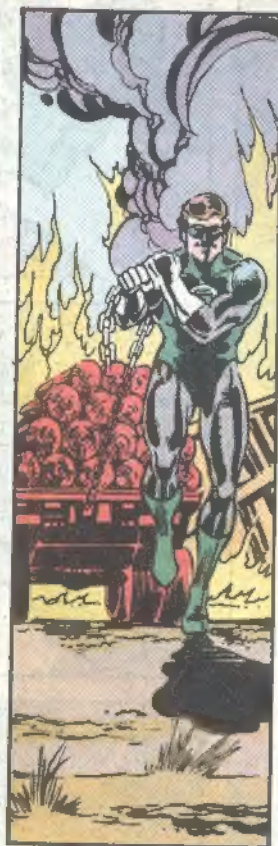




THE VISITOR  
WAITS FOR A  
REPLY, NONE IS  
FORTCOMING.



IT DECIDES TO  
BORROW THE  
VEHICLE AND  
MATERIAL.



THE VISITOR HOPES  
IT IS NOT BEING  
RUDE...

next: **ENTER... CAPTAIN ATOM**



# SHAZAM!

WADDA YOU  
MEAN, YOU DON'T  
WANT ME IN ON  
THE BIG  
CYANIDE  
SPILL!?

I'M  
CAPTAIN  
NAZI, DO  
YOU HEAR  
ME?

CAPTAIN  
NAZI  
GOES  
WHERE  
HE DAMN  
WELL  
WANTS  
TO--

-- AND TODAY  
THAT MEANS  
SAN FRANCISCO,  
SO I CAN LOCK  
KIESTERS WITH  
CAPTAIN MARVEL!

ROY & DANN THOMAS  
WRITERS  
RICK STASI  
PENCILLER  
RICK MAGYAR  
INKER  
JEAN SIMEK  
LETTERER  
NANSI HOOLIHAN  
COLORIST  
MIKE GOLD  
EDITOR

YOU CAN LOCATE THAT FOOL  
ANYTIME, LESTER, USING THIS  
BELT WE DESIGNED.

BUT DR. PATTERSON'S DECIDED  
HE SHOULD RUN A FEW MORE  
TESTS FIRST, TO ASCERTAIN  
THE EXTENT AND DURATION  
OF YOUR NEW POWERS...

LET ME DOWN!  
YOU'RE OUT OF  
LINE, MAN!

YOU'RE UNDER  
OUR COMMAND--  
THE SONS OF  
VALHALLA!

OH,  
YEAH--  
ABOUT  
THAT  
LITTLE  
DETAIL--

YOU AND  
PATTERSON  
CAN BOTH GO  
TO HELL!





MAYBE LESTER ABERNATHY VOLUNTEERED FOR YOUR LITTLE EXPERIMENT-- BUT HE'S HISTORY.

CAPTAIN NAZI TOOK HIS PLACE-- AND I DON'T TAKE ORDERS--

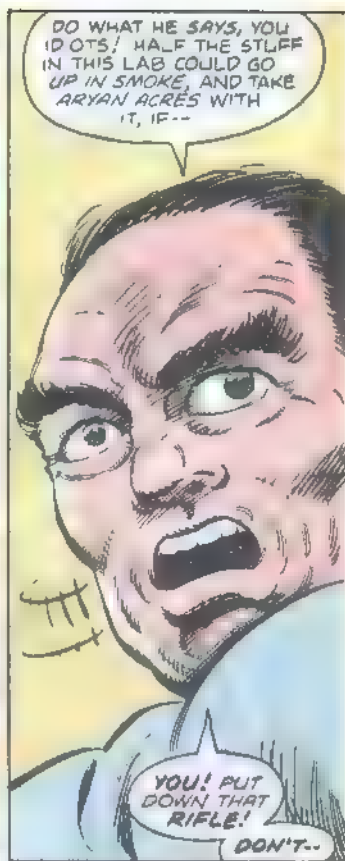
I GIVE 'EM!



WE'LL SOON SEE ABOUT THAT!

YOU MEN-- RESTRAIN H.M.! BUT DON'T USE YOUR WEAPONS-- JUST YOUR BARE HANDS!

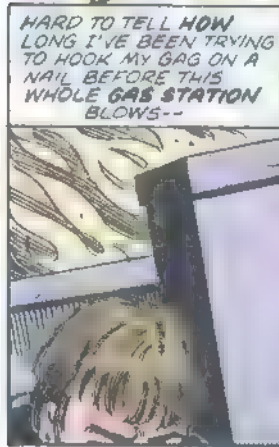
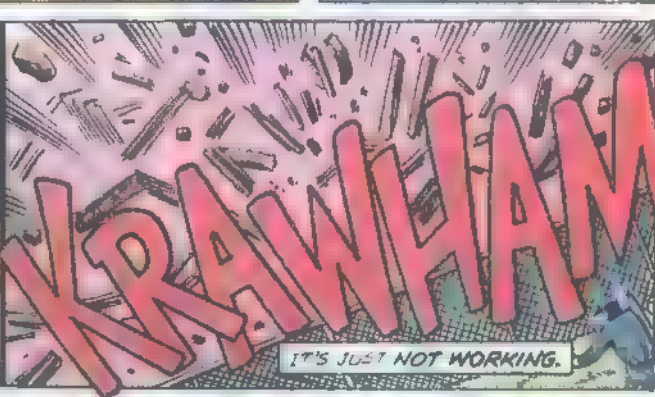
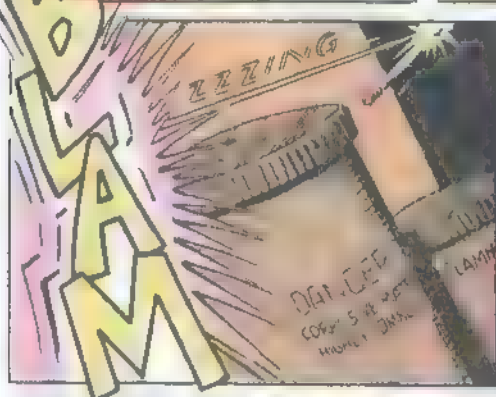
NO WAY LEADER DAVIS! WE SAW H.M. PUT HIS FIST THROUGH A SOLID WALL!



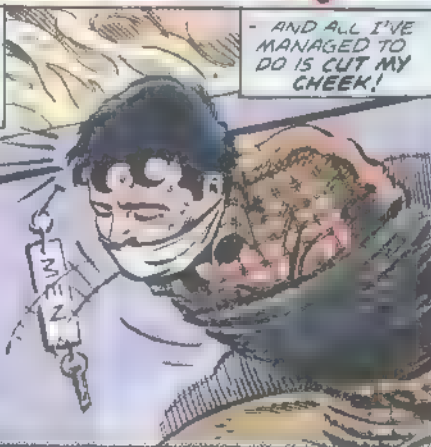
DO WHAT HE SAYS, YOU IDIOTS! HALF THE STUFF IN THIS LAB COULD GO UP IN SMOKE, AND TAKE ARIAN ACRES WITH IT, IF--

YOU! PUT DOWN THAT RIFLE!

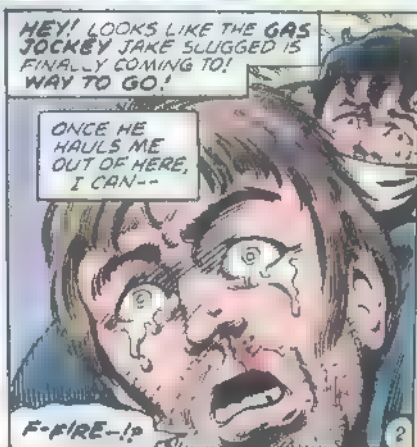
DON'T--



HARD TO TELL HOW LONG I'VE BEEN TRYING TO HOOK MY GAG ON A NAIL BEFORE THIS WHOLE GAS STATION BLOWS--



- AND ALL I'VE MANAGED TO DO IS CUT MY CHEEK!



HEY! LOOKS LIKE THE GAS JOCKEY JAKE SLUGGED IS FINALLY COMING TO! WAY TO GO!

ONCE HE HAULS ME OUT OF HERE, I CAN--

FIRE--!

2





G-GOTTA--  
--KOFFE!  
--GET  
OUTTA  
HERE!

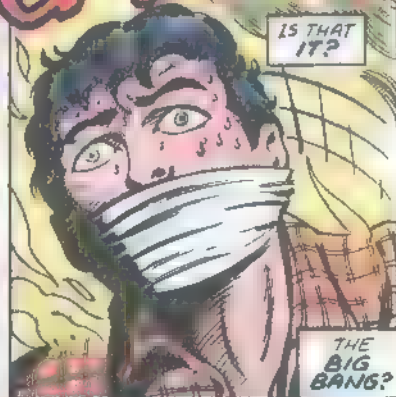
TERRIFIC! HE DOESN'T EVEN SEE ME, PROBABLY  
WOULDN'T COME BACK IF HE DID.

JUST MY LUCK JAKE MADE THE  
CAMPFIRE BOYS TIE MY LEGS,  
BUT NOT HIS.

ME

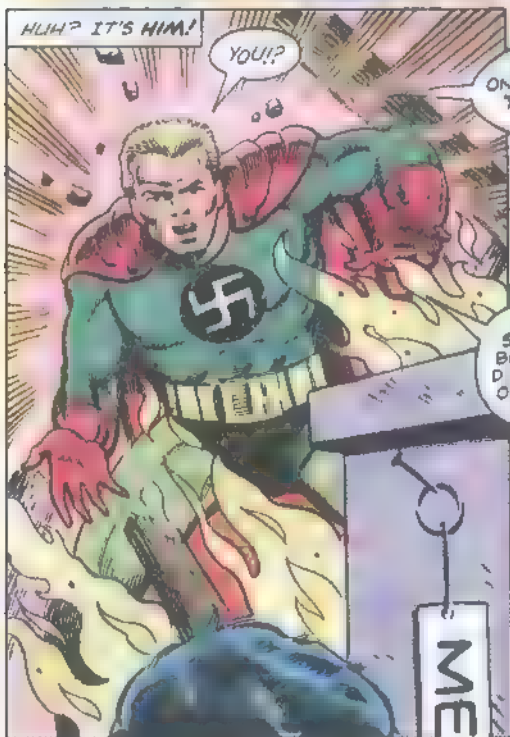
FACE IT, BATSON--  
MRS. THICKERT'S GONNA  
NEED A NEW WHIZ-  
KID REPORTER, COME  
TOMORROW, UNLESS--

# CRASH



IS THAT  
IT?

THE  
BIG  
BANG?



HUH? IT'S HIM!

YOU!?

YOU WERE  
ON THE BUS WITH  
THE OTHER  
BOYS.

WHEN I  
SPOTTED THIS  
BLAZE, I SURE  
DIDN'T FIGURE  
ON FINDING  
YOU HERE.

WHO  
TORCHED  
THIS PLACE,  
ANYWAY?

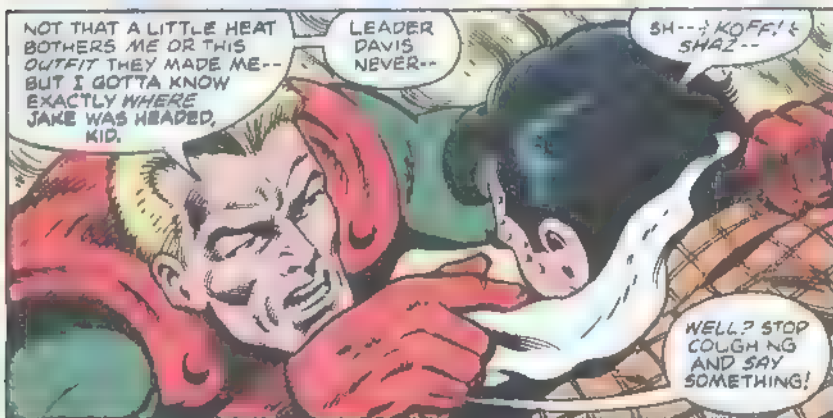
ME



Higher  
OCTANE  
LOWER PRICE

Higher  
OCTANE  
LOWER PRICE

Higher  
OCTANE  
LOWER PRICE

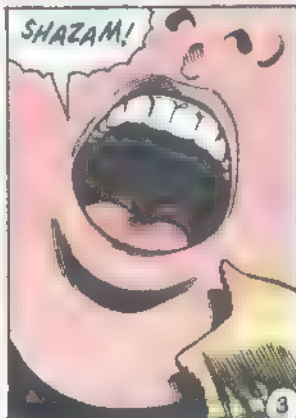


NOT THAT A LITTLE HEAT  
BOTHERS ME OR THIS  
OUTFIT THEY MADE ME--  
BUT I GOTTA KNOW  
EXACTLY WHERE  
JAKE WAS HEADED,  
KID.

LEADER  
DAVIS  
NEVER--

SH--KOFFE!  
SHAZ--

WELL? STOP  
COUGHING  
AND SAY  
SOMETHING!



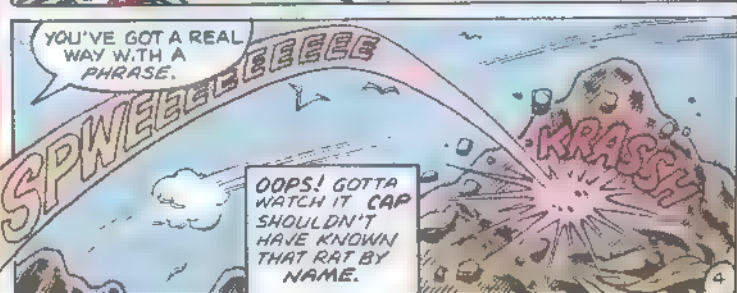
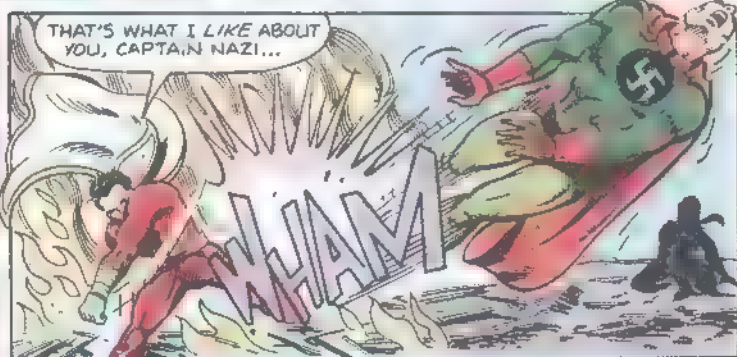
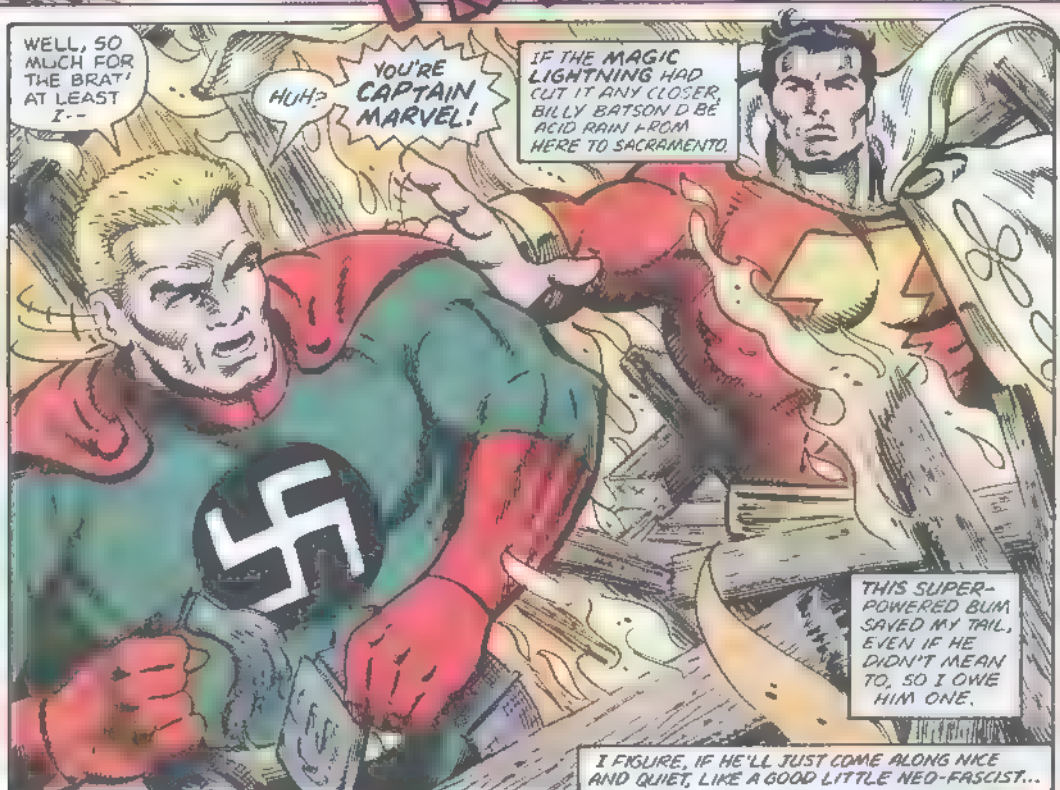
SHAZAM!



KRAAK

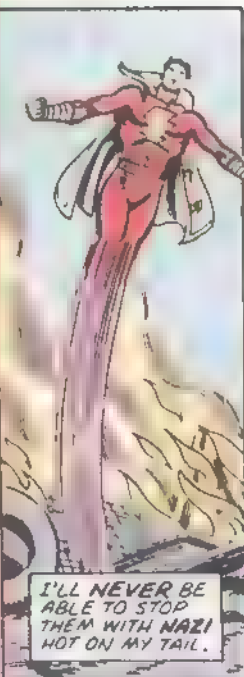
WOW

# KAWHOOOM





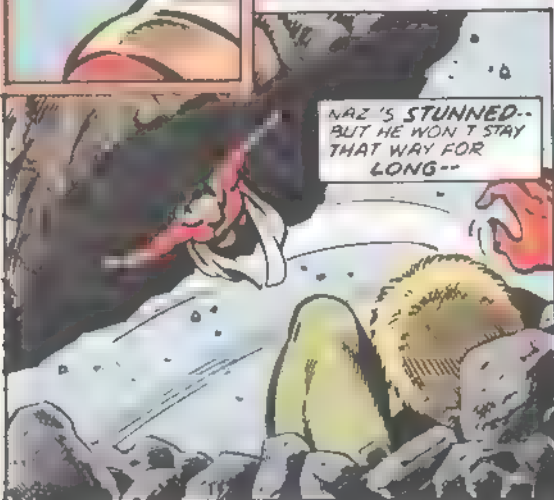
BUT THAT'S THE  
LEAST OF MY  
WORRIES RIGHT  
NOW-- WITH A  
BUNCH OF 15-  
YEAR-OLDS DUE  
TO BECOME MASS  
MURDERERS  
ANY MINUTE!



I'LL NEVER BE  
ABLE TO STOP  
THEM WITH NAZI  
HOT ON MY TAIL.



--FIRST  
THINGS  
FIRST!



NAZI'S STUNNED--  
BUT HE WON'T STAY  
THAT WAY FOR  
LONG--



--UNLESS I USE  
A MOUNTAIN--



--TO TURN HIM INTO A  
MOLE!



--LITTLE YELLA  
CREEP! TRY TO  
STOP US, WILL YA?

YOU CAN'T DUMP  
THAT CYANIDE IN  
THERE--!

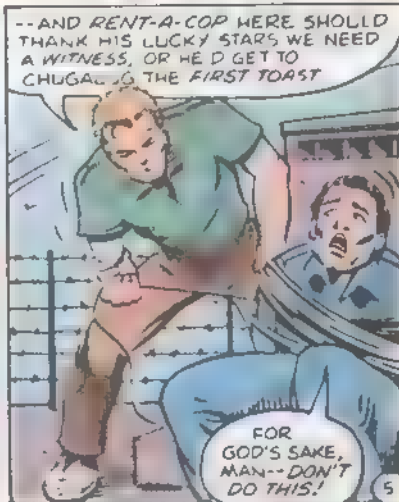
M-MAYBE SAM'S  
RIGHT, JAKE...

RESERVOIR



HE'S CHICKENSPLIT--  
JUST LIKE DUANE SAID.

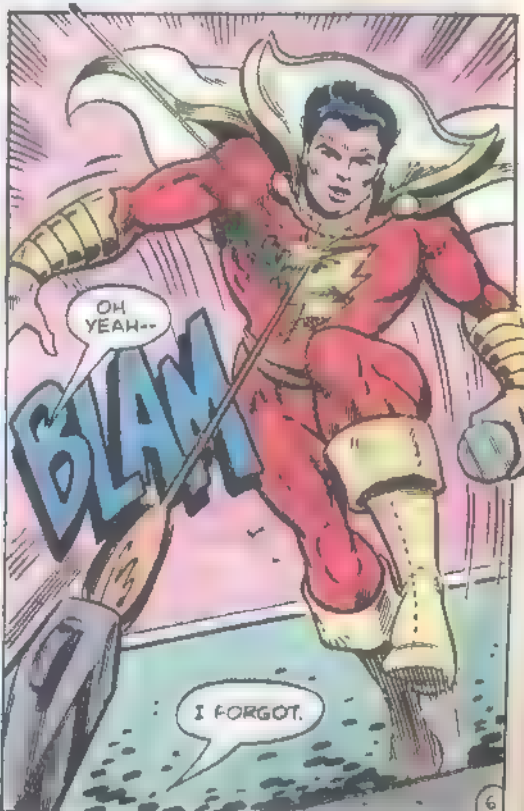
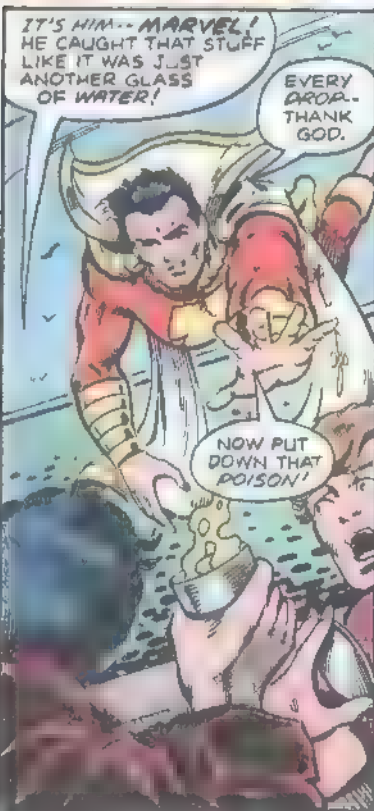
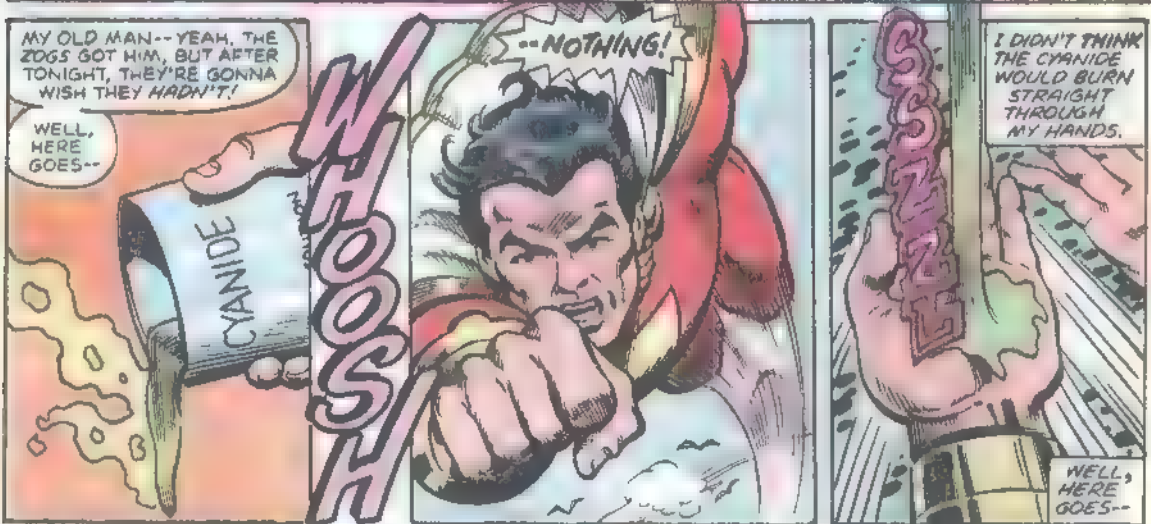
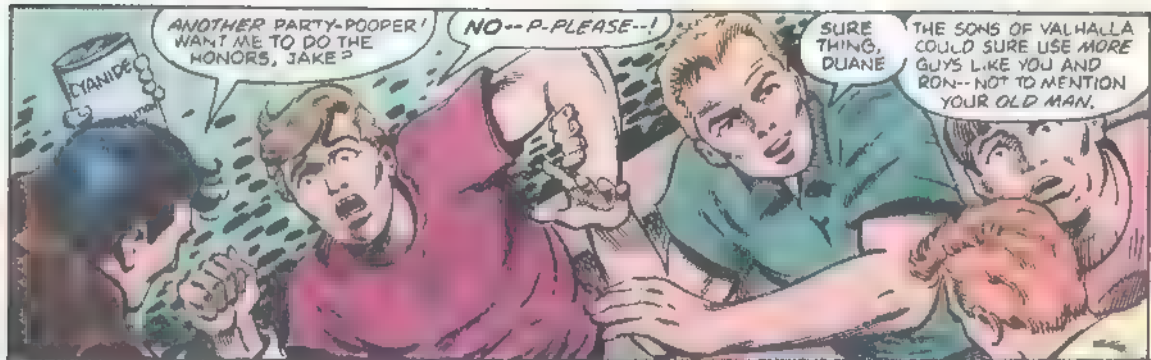
WE'RE  
CARRYING OUT  
THE LEADER'S  
PLAN--



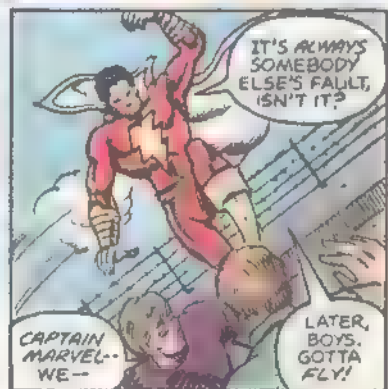
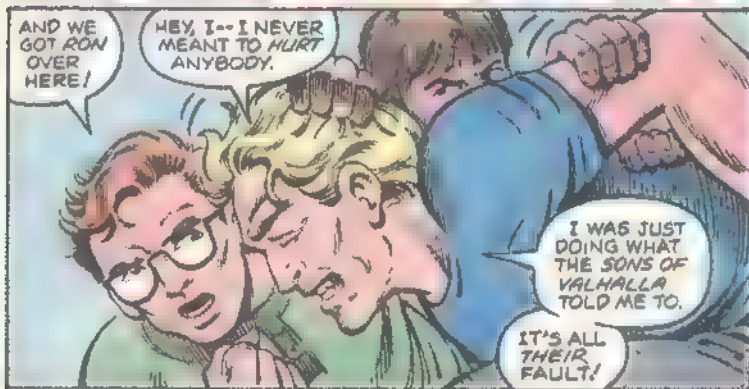
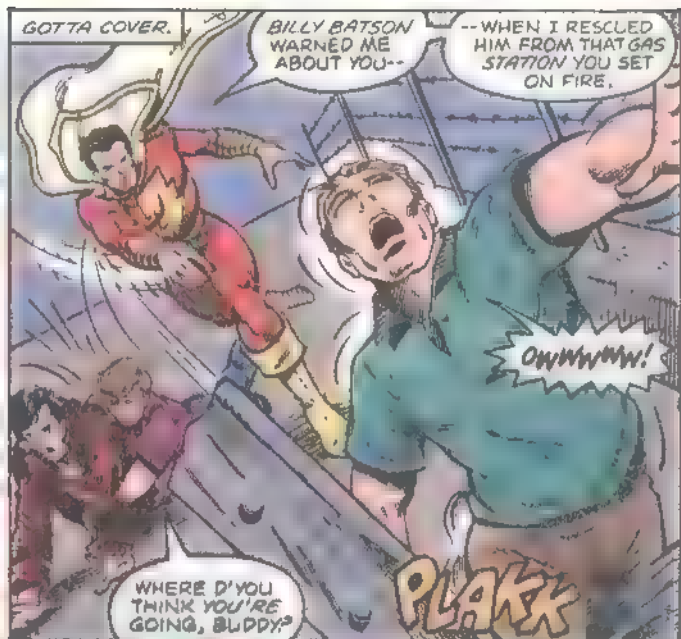
--AND RENT-A-COP WERE SHOULD  
THANK HIS LUCKY STARS WE NEED  
A WITNESS, OR HE'D GET TO  
CHUGAUGO THE FIRST TOAST

FOR  
GOD'S SAKE,  
MAN--DON'T  
DO THIS!









BUT ALL MERCURY'S SPEED COULDN'T GET ME TO THE RESERVOIR FAST ENOUGH TO STOP THOSE GUYS FROM GETTING IN TROUBLE-- SAM AND THE REST, ON TOP OF RON AND THE REAL DUANE McCULLERS--



--ANY MORE THAN IT GOT ME BACK TO GOD'S COUNTRY IN TIME TO STOP CAPTAIN NAZI FROM DIGGING HIS WAY FREE AND LEAVING ME A LOVE-NOTE CARVED WITH HIS OWN DANTY FINGER.



MAYBE ALL VICTORIES ARE REALLY ONLY PARTIAL ONES.





JULY 10, 11:23 P.M., THE SKIES OVER THE  
WASHINGTON GOLF AND COUNTRY  
CLUB IN ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA.

SECRET SIX!

GOODNNA  
TRY TO RAISE  
LUKE IN THE  
TRUCK--  
GET HIS  
POSITION  
WE'LL NEED  
TO GO BACK  
FOR HIM

LORDY,  
MARA, WATCH  
WHERE YOU'RE  
GOIN'!...

## CAPITOL OFFENSES

WRITTEN BY MARTIN PASKO  
DRAWN BY FRANK SPRINGER &  
FRANK M. RUSH  
COLORED BY CARL GAFFORD  
LETTERED BY ALBERT G. SZIMAN  
EDITED BY ROBERT GREENBERGER

G 3804

-- WHATCHA WANNA  
DO, CHOP DOWN  
TREES?

NEVER MIND  
THAT-- JUST GET  
ON THE "PHONE"!!

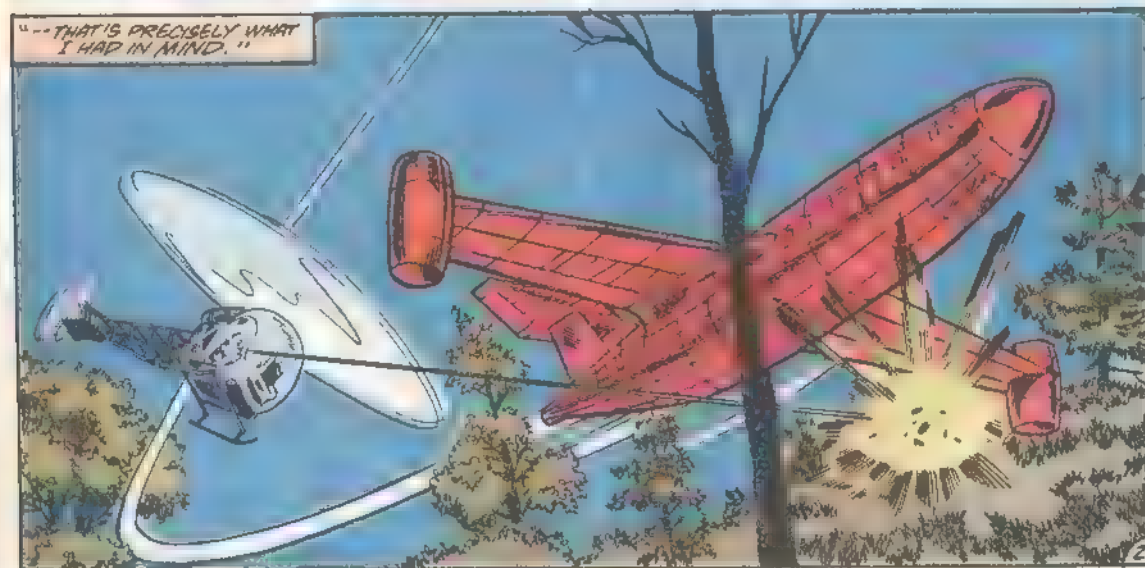
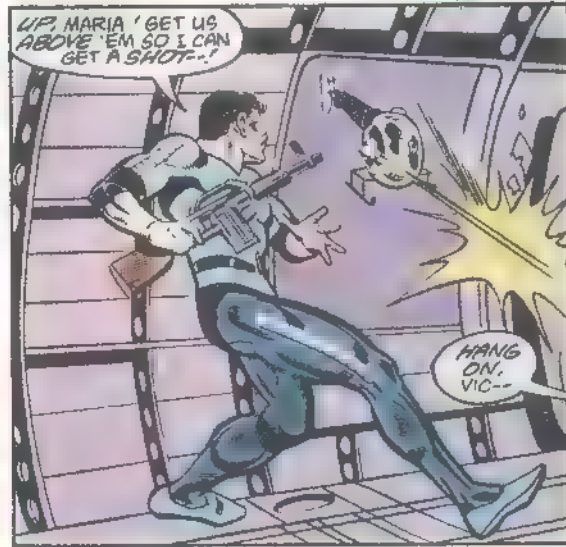
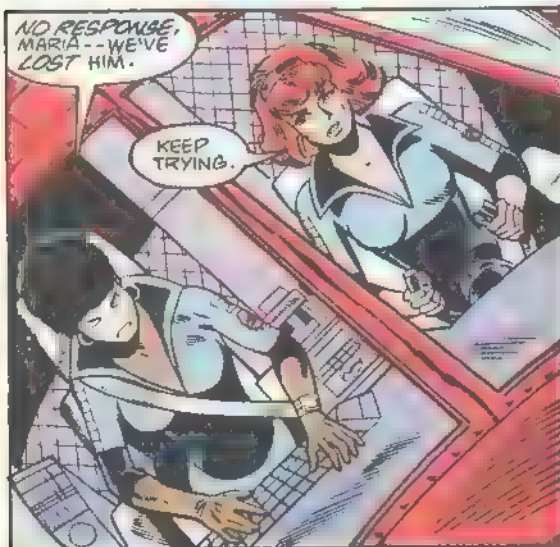
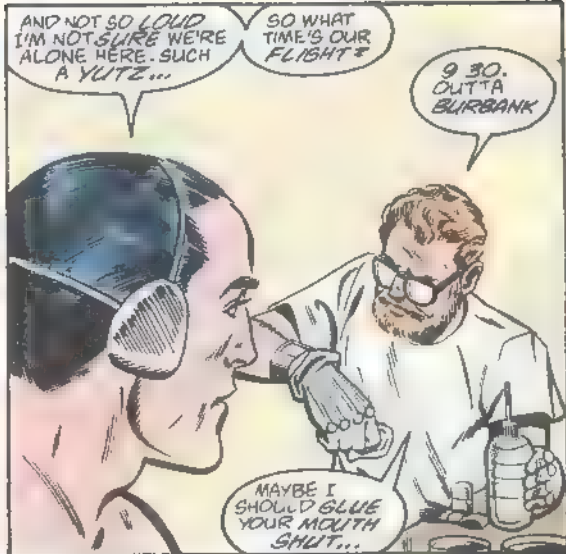
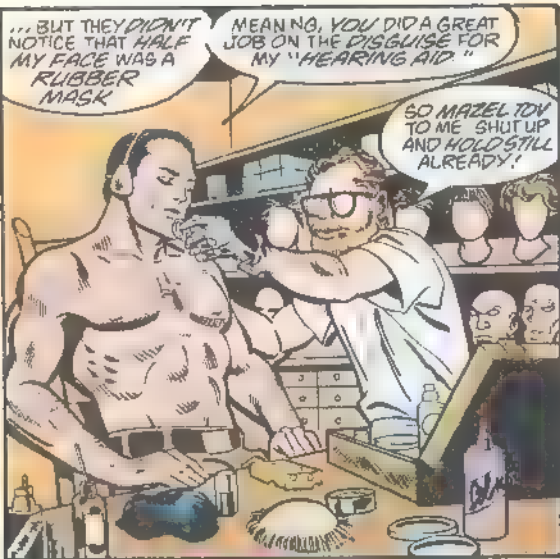
MEANWHILE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

IMAGIK FILMWORKS INC.  
SPECIAL VISUAL EFFECTS  
STOP MOTION ANIMATION  
MINIATURES SPECIAL MAKE-UP

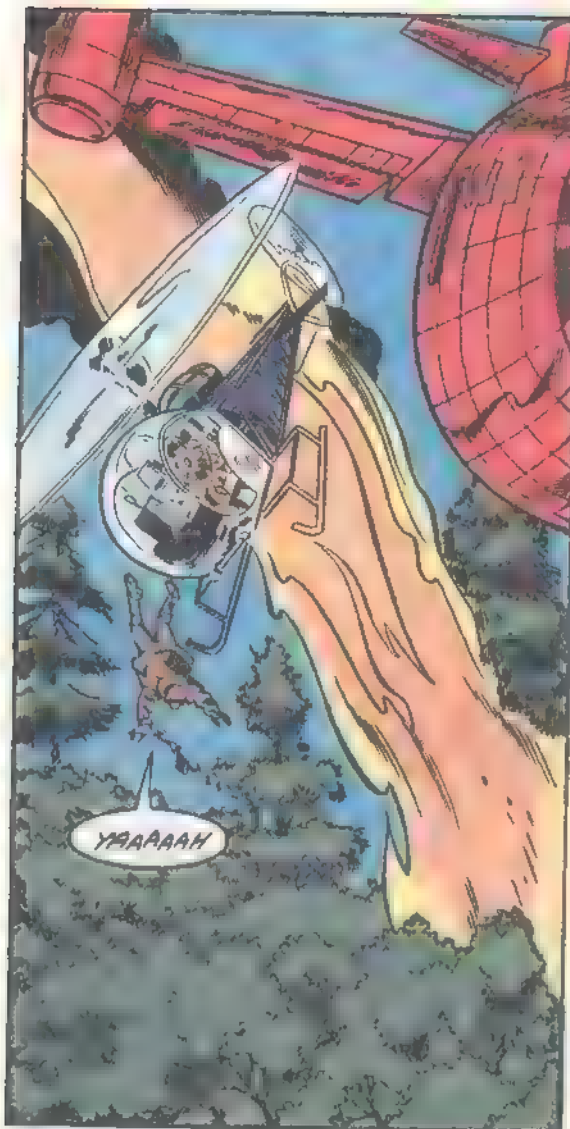
WILL YA STOP  
GROUNGB,  
HOBERMAN & I'M  
PAI. NO YOU A  
COMPLIMENT.  
WHAT MORE  
CAN YOU ASK  
FOR?

UNDERSTAND &  
THEY GOT MY  
COMMUNICATOR  
AND MY WALLET  
WHEN THEY  
CAPTURED  
ME...

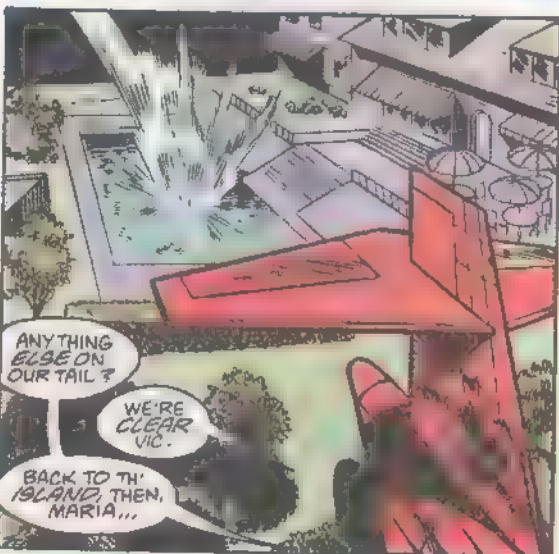
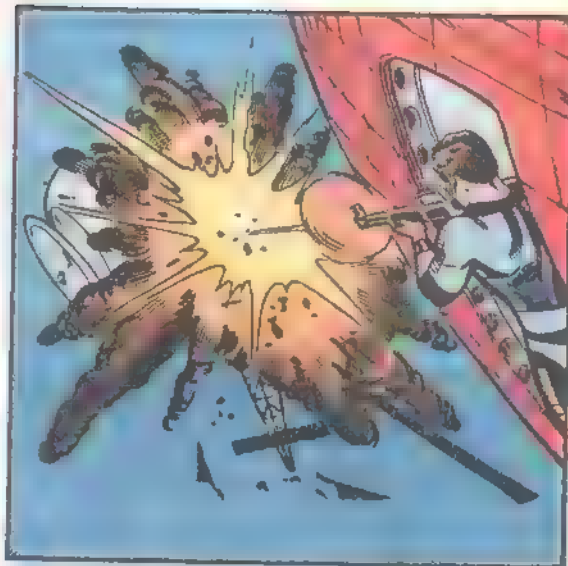








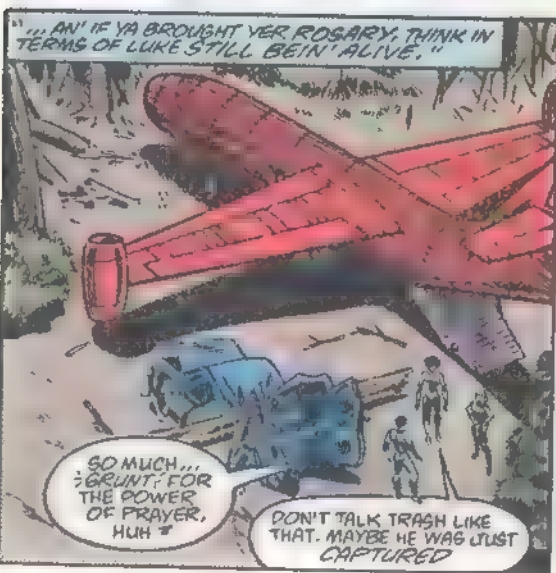
YAAAAAH



ANYTHING ELSE ON OUR TAIL?

WE'RE CLEAR VIC.

BACK TO TH' ISLAND, THEN, MARIA...



"... AN' IF YA BROUGHT YER ROSARY, THINK IN TERMS OF LUKE STILL BEIN' ALIVE."

SO MUCH...  
GRUNT, FOR THE POWER OF PRAYER, HUH?

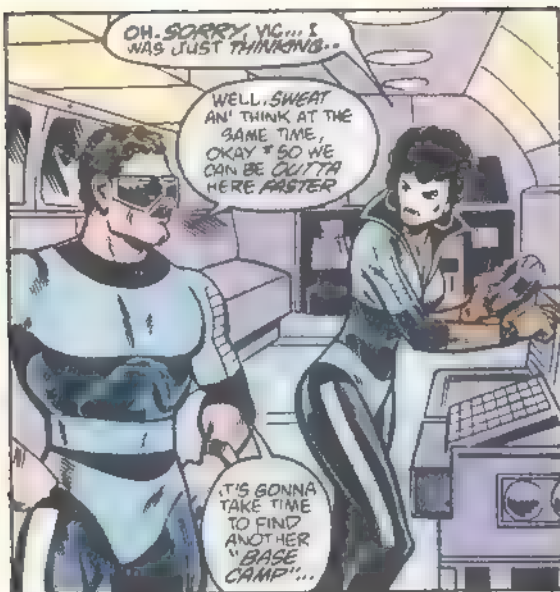
DON'T TALK TRASH LIKE THAT. MAYBE HE WAS JUST CAPTURED



POSSIBLY-- DIDN'T STOP TO DO MUCH DAMAGE I'VE CHECKED OUT ALL THE EQUIPMENT, AND IT'S INTACT...

GOOD WORK, DOCTOR GRUNT! --I'M GLAD AT LEAST ONE OF US IS GASP EXERTIN' THEMSELVES.





OH, SORRY VIC... I WAS JUST THINKING...

WELL, SWEAT AN' THINK AT THE SAME TIME, OKAY? SO WE CAN BE OUTTA HERE FASTER

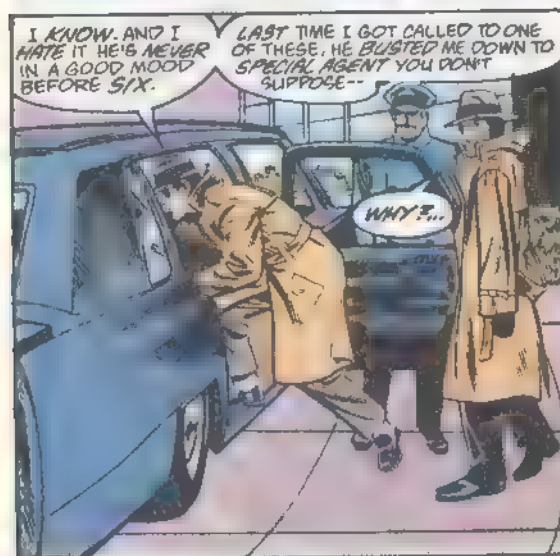
IT'S GONNA TAKE TIME TO FIND ANOTHER "BASE CAMP"...



"...SO WE CAN START TRYIN' TO TRACK DOWN LLIKE."

I STILL THINK WE SHOULD STICK AROUND TILL THAT GUY COMES TO.

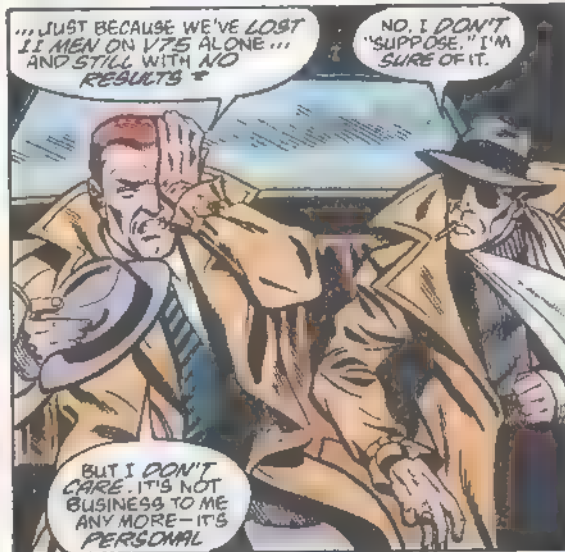
BELIEVE ME, I'D LOVE TO... BUT WHEN THE OLD MAN TELLS YOU YOU'RE HAV'NG A BREAK-FAST MEETING...



I KNOW, AND I HATE IT HE'S NEVER IN A GOOD MOOD BEFORE SIX.

LAST TIME I GOT CALLED TO ONE OF THESE, HE BUSTED ME DOWN TO SPECIAL AGENT YOU DON'T SUPPOSE--

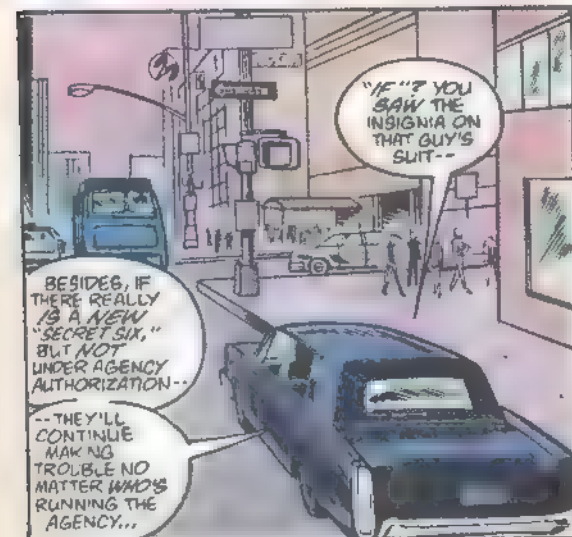
WHY?...



...JUST BECAUSE WE'VE LOST I MEN ON V75 ALONE... AND STILL WITH NO RESULTS \*

NO, I DON'T "SUPPOSE." I'M SURE OF IT.

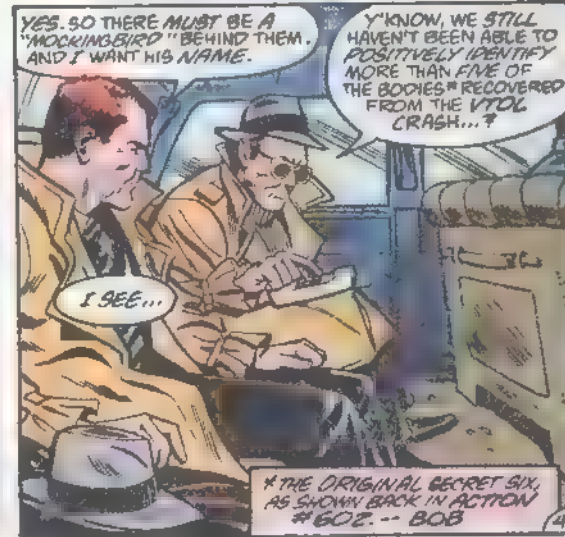
BUT I DON'T CARE. IT'S NOT BUSINESS TO ME ANY MORE-- IT'S PERSONAL



"IF" YOU SAW THE INSIGNIA ON THAT GUY'S SUIT--

BESIDES, IF THERE REALLY IS A NEW "SECRET SIX," BUT NOT UNDER AGENCY AUTHORIZATION--

--THEY'LL CONTINUE MAK'NG TROUBLE NO MATTER WHO'S RUNNING THE AGENCY...



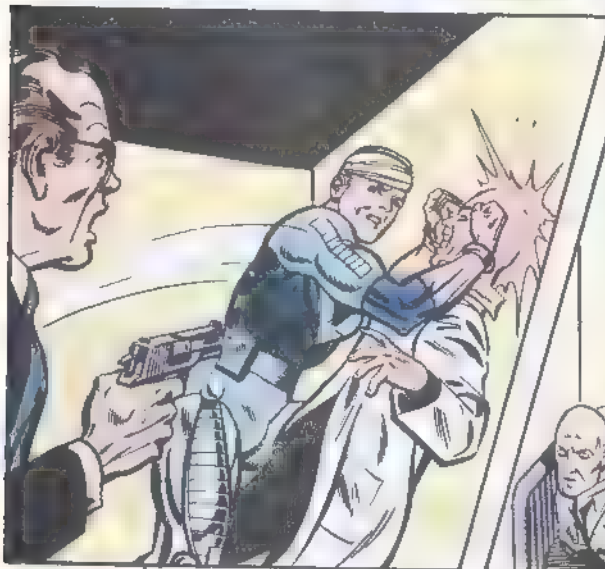
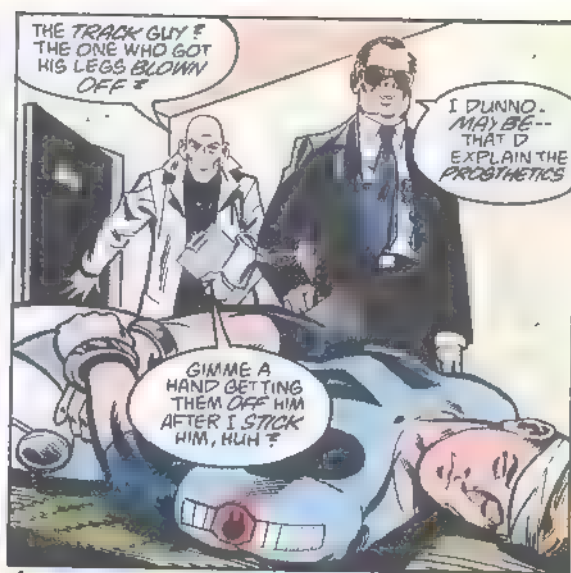
YES, SO THERE MUST BE A "MOCKINGBIRD" BEHIND THEM, AND I WANT HIS NAME.

Y'KNOW, WE STILL HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO POSITIVELY IDENTIFY MORE THAN FIVE OF THE BODIES\* RECOVERED FROM THE VTOL CRASH...?

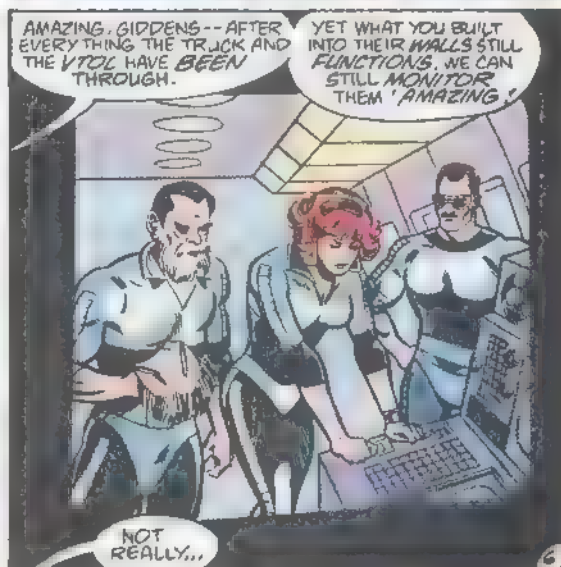
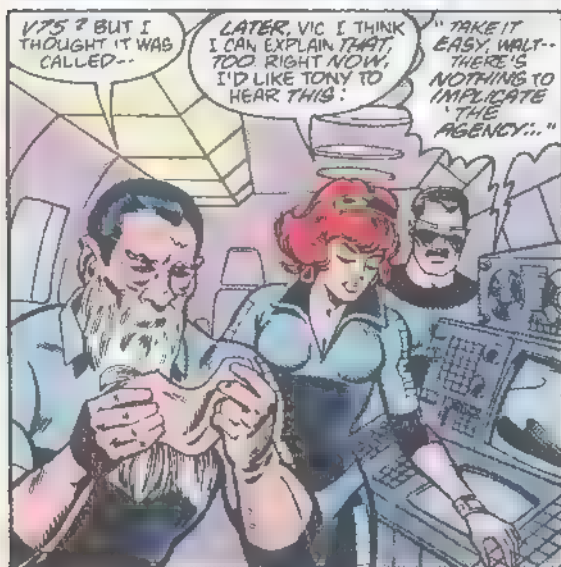
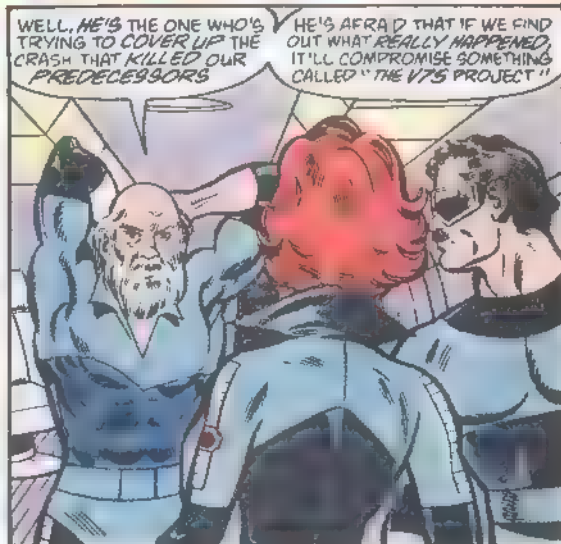
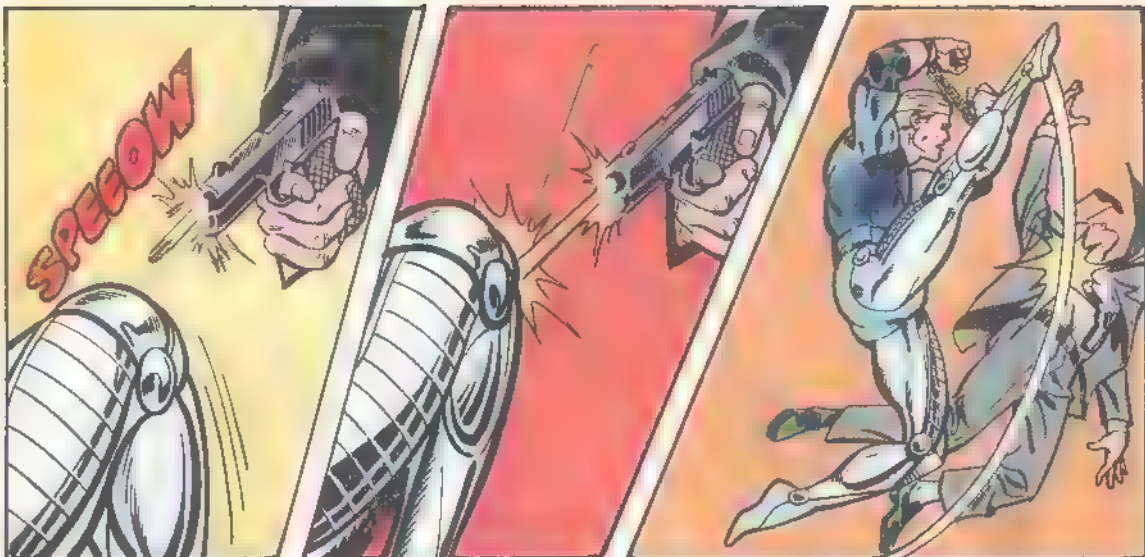
I SEE...

\* THE ORIGINAL SECRET SIX, AS SHOWN BACK IN ACTION #602 -- BOB





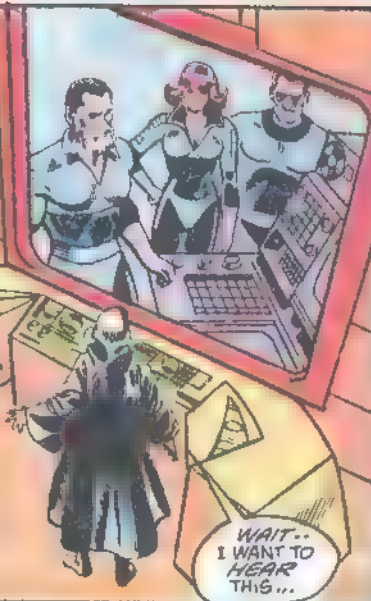






... IF YOU KNOW YOUR WAY AROUND FIBER OPTICS AND MICROCIRCUITS, AND WE DO.

I PROMISED YOU A TOTALLY UNDETECTABLE "BUG," SIR-- IMPERVIOUS EVEN TO THEIR OWN SENSORS, AND--



WAIT-- I WANT TO HEAR THIS...

WE MUST'VE PICKED THAT UP WHEN WE MADE CONTACT WITH THE STOLEN COMMUNICATORS.

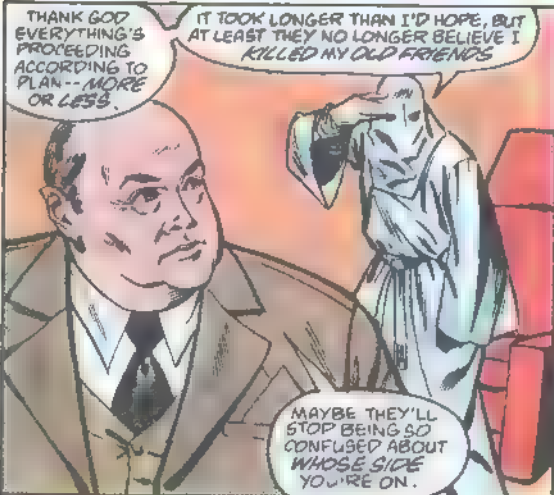
"LISTEN TO THE REST OF IT AND IT'S CLEAR WE WERE WRONG."

THIS "AGENCY" CAUSED THE VTOL CRASH, NOT MOCKINGBIRD



THANK GOD EVERYTHING'S PROCEEDING ACCORDING TO PLAN-- MORE OR LESS.

IT TOOK LONGER THAN I'D HOPE, BUT AT LEAST THEY NO LONGER BELIEVE I KILLED MY OLD FRIENDS

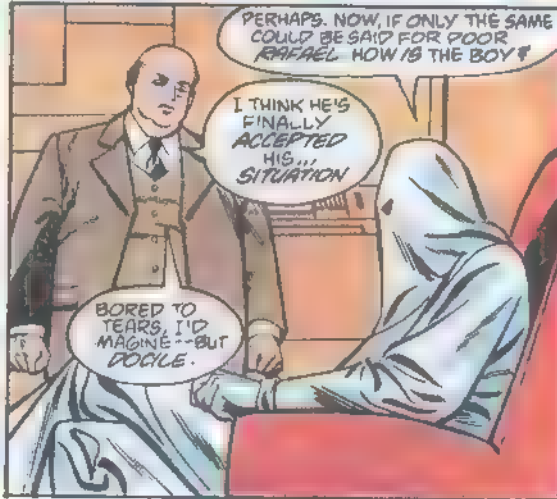


MAYBE THEY'LL STOP BEING SO CONFUSED ABOUT WHOSE SIDE YOU'RE ON.

PERHAPS. NOW, IF ONLY THE SAME COULD BE SAID FOR POOR RAFAEL. HOW IS THE BOY?

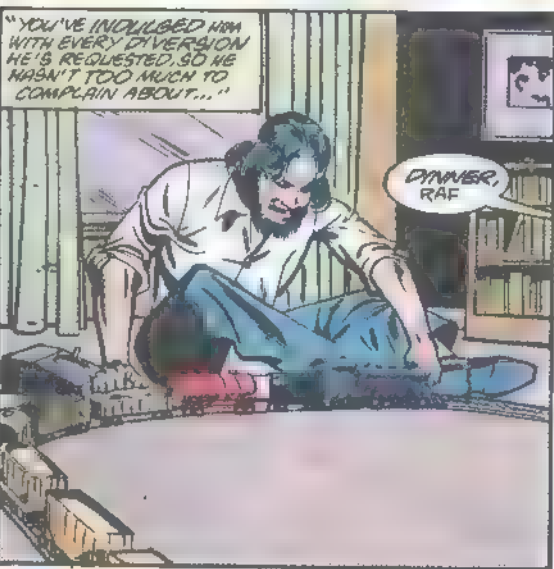
I THINK HE'S FINALLY ACCEPTED HIS... SITUATION

BORED TO TEARS, I'D MIMINE--BUT DOGILE.



"YOU'VE INDULGED HIM WITH EVERY DIVERSION HE'S REQUESTED, SO HE HASN'T TOO MUCH TO COMPLAIN ABOUT..."

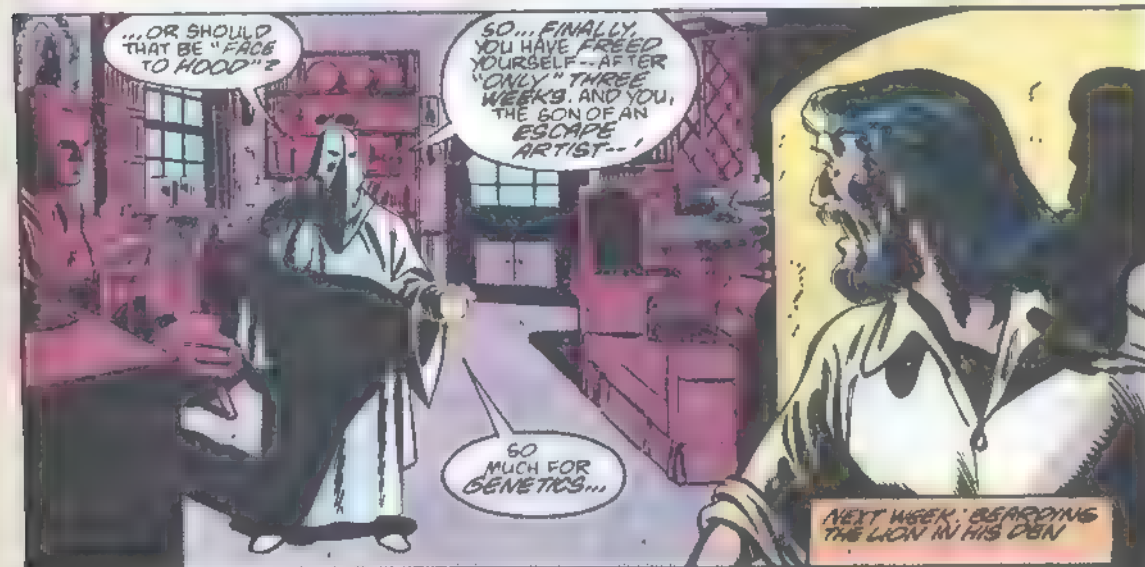
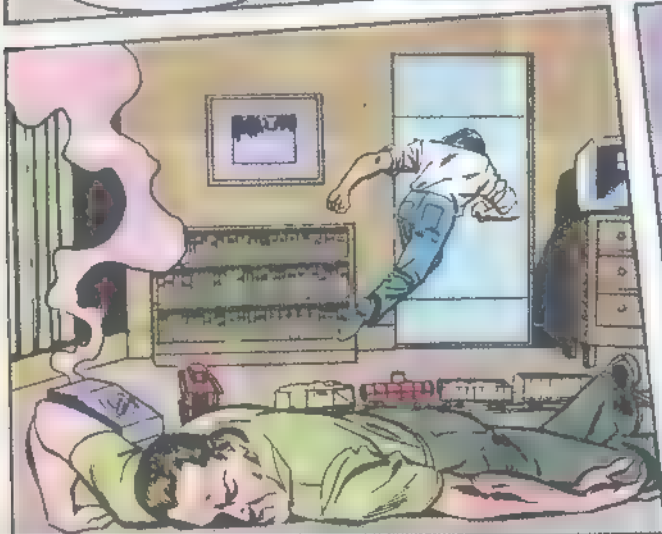
DINNER, RAF



AN' IF YOU'RE A GOOD LI'L BOY, MAYBE WE'LL GETCHA SOME MAYPO FOR DESSERT





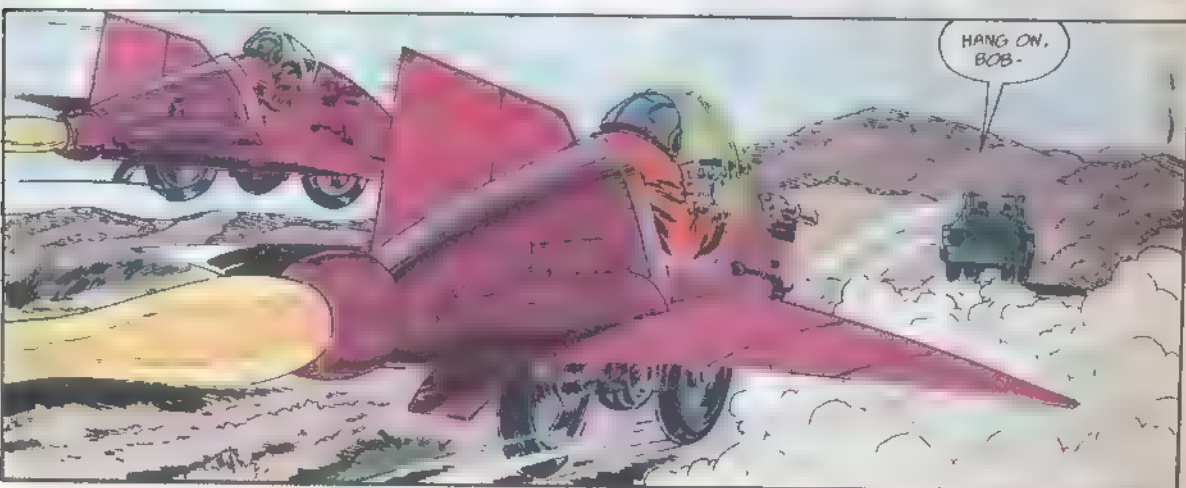
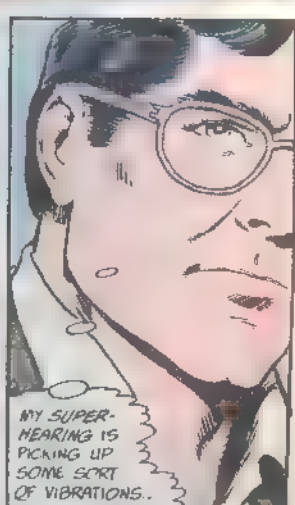
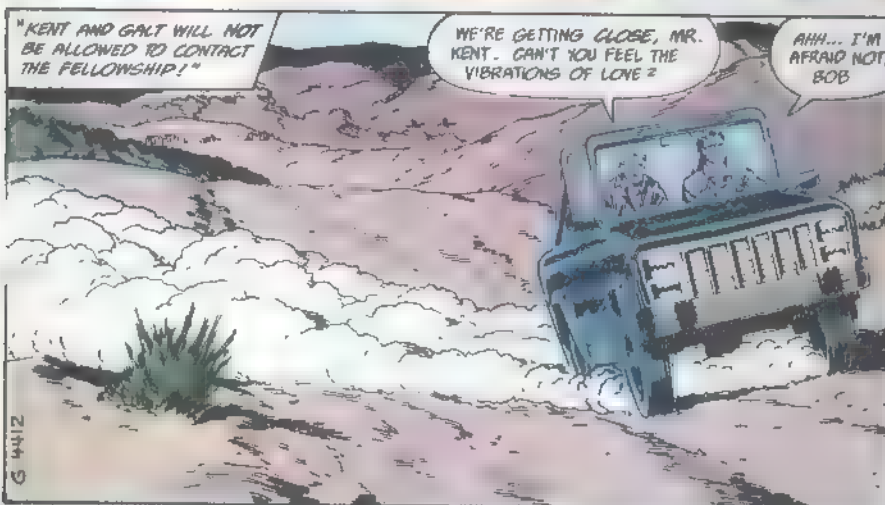
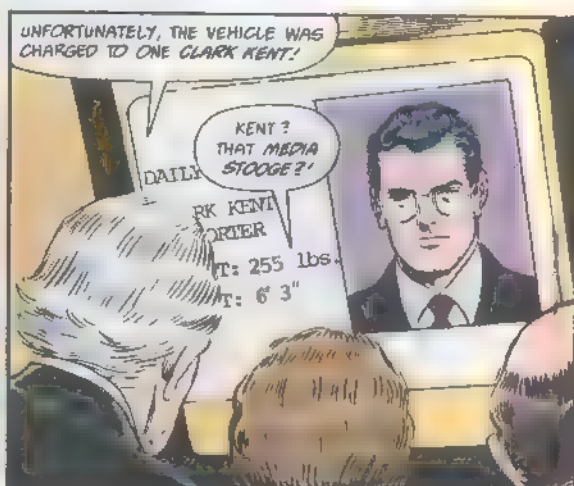
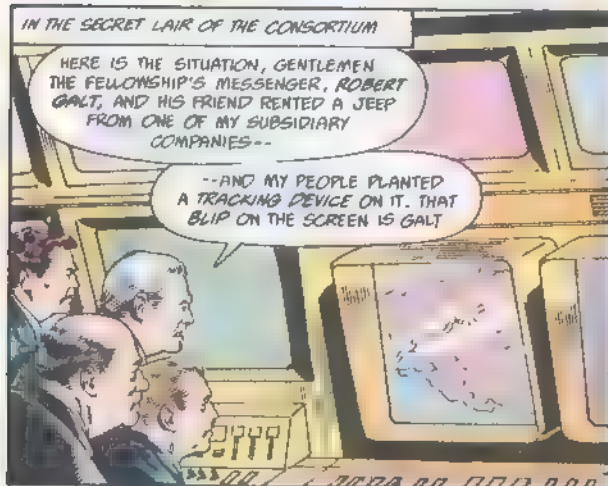




# SUPERMAN

Created by  
TERRY SIEGEL &  
JOE SHUSTER

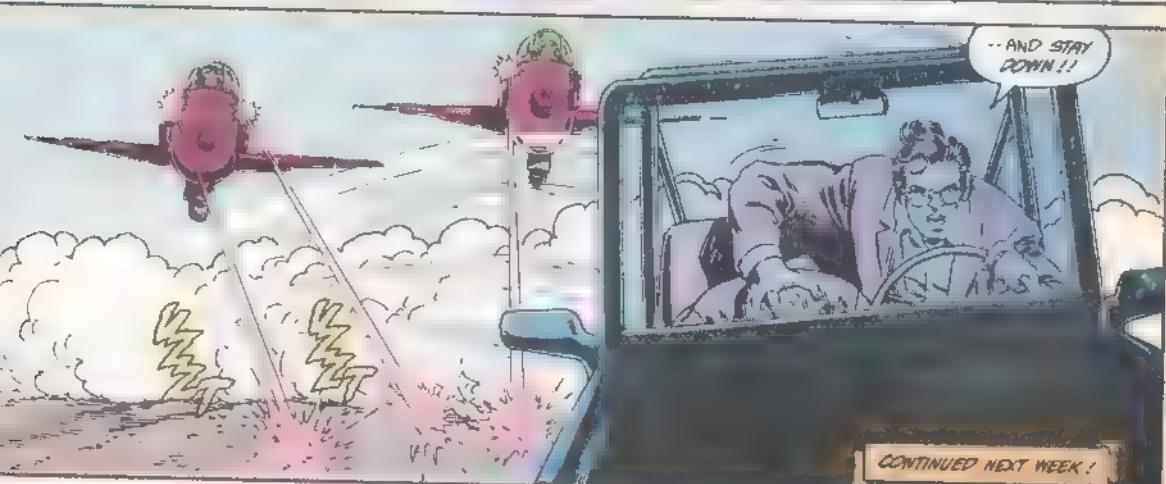
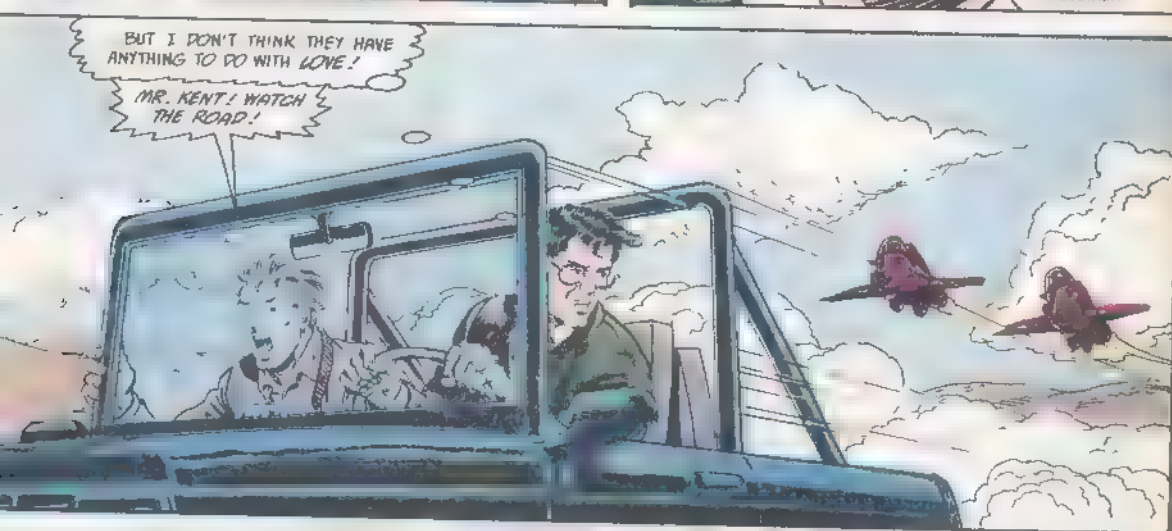
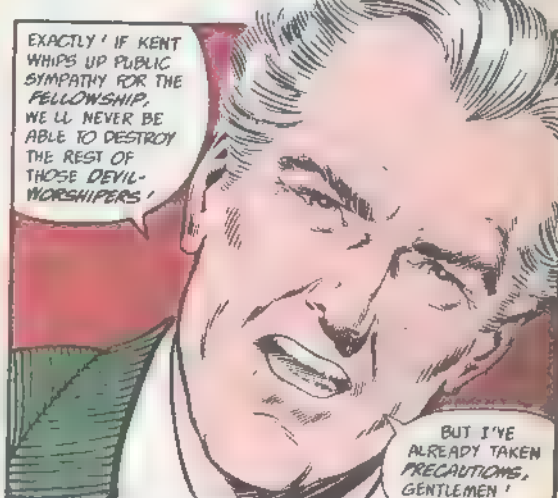
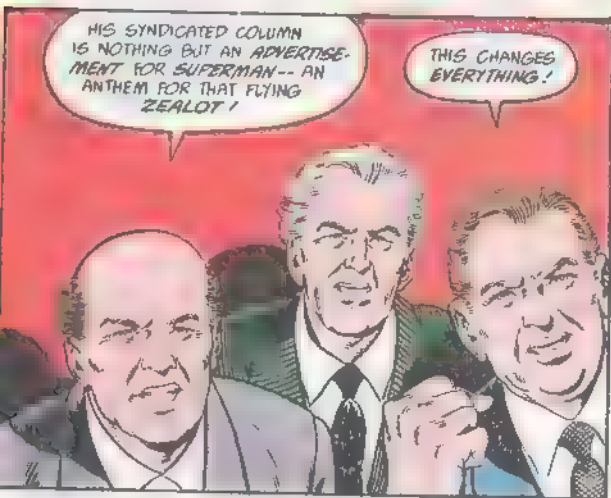
“  
OOO INTO





# THE FIRE!"

ROGER STERN - WRITER  
CURT SWAN - PENCILLER  
MURPHY ANDERSON - INKER  
BILL OAKLEY - LETTERER  
TOM ZIUKO - COLORIST  
MIKE CARLIN - EDITOR



# DEADMAN THE

DEADMAN, YOU'VE  
FALL'D MAH SISTER  
DELA AN' I HAVE  
TAKEN THE BODIES  
OF MADAME  
WAXAHACHIE AND  
OL' LUKE.

WE CAN  
STILL  
CONTROL  
OUR ARMY  
OF THE  
DEAD



G 4399

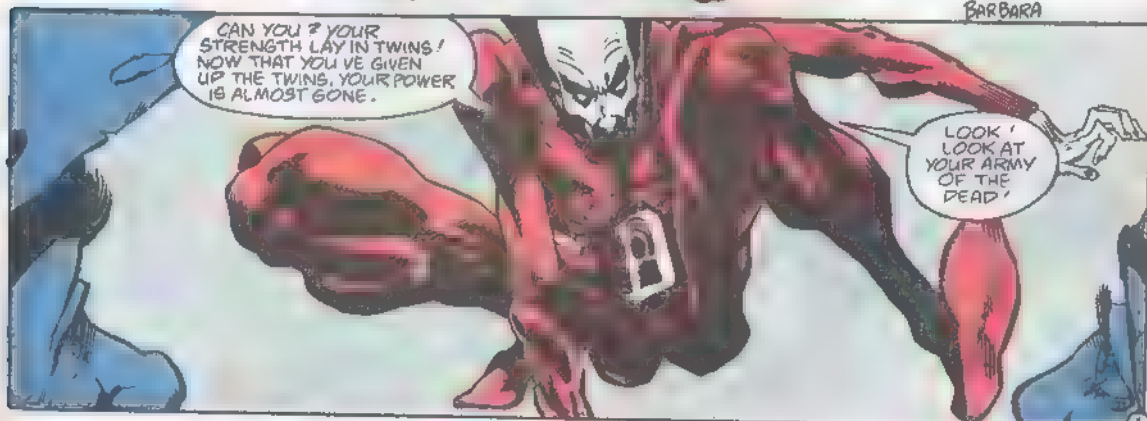
A PRESENTATION OF FEAR AND TERROR BY **BARON JONES**  
MIKE KELLEY

DEZUNIGA DEGUZMAN VOZZO  
TONY ALBERT DANIEL

KESEL  
BARBARA

CAN YOU ? YOUR  
STRENGTH LAY IN TWINS !  
NOW THAT YOU'VE GIVEN  
UP THE TWINS, YOUR POWER  
IS ALMOST GONE.

LOOK !  
LOOK AT  
YOUR ARMY  
OF THE  
DEAD !

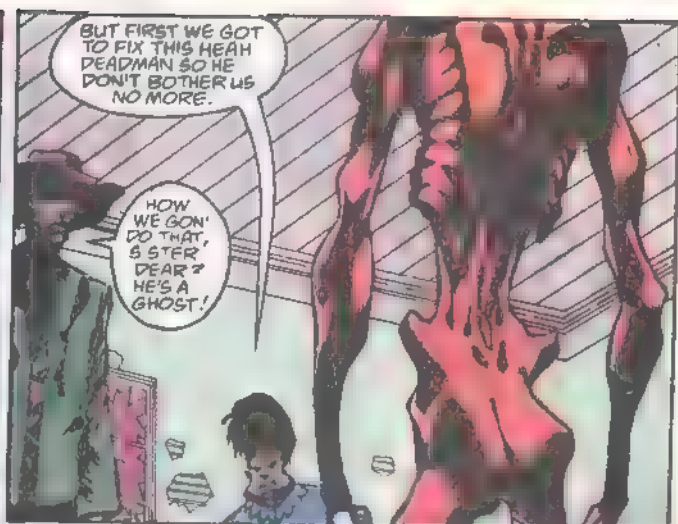






OH NOOO!  
OUAH ARMY IS  
FALLIN' TO  
PIECES!

BE CALM,  
SISTER DEAR.  
WE'LL JUST  
HAVE TO FIND  
US ANOTHER  
PAIR OF  
TWINN...



BUT FIRST WE GOT  
TO FIX THIS HEAH  
DEADMAN SO HE  
DON'T BOTHER US  
NO MORE.

HOW  
WE GON'  
DO THAT,  
SISTER  
DEAR?  
HE'S A  
GHOST!



BUT THOSE  
DEAR LITTLE  
BROGGEN GIRLS  
AREN'T NOT YET,  
ANYHOW. THEY'RE  
WAITIN' OUTSIDE IN  
MISSY MABEL'S CAR  
WHY DON'T YOU  
GET 'EM, SISTER  
DEAR?



YOU LEAVE THOSE  
GIRLS ALONE!

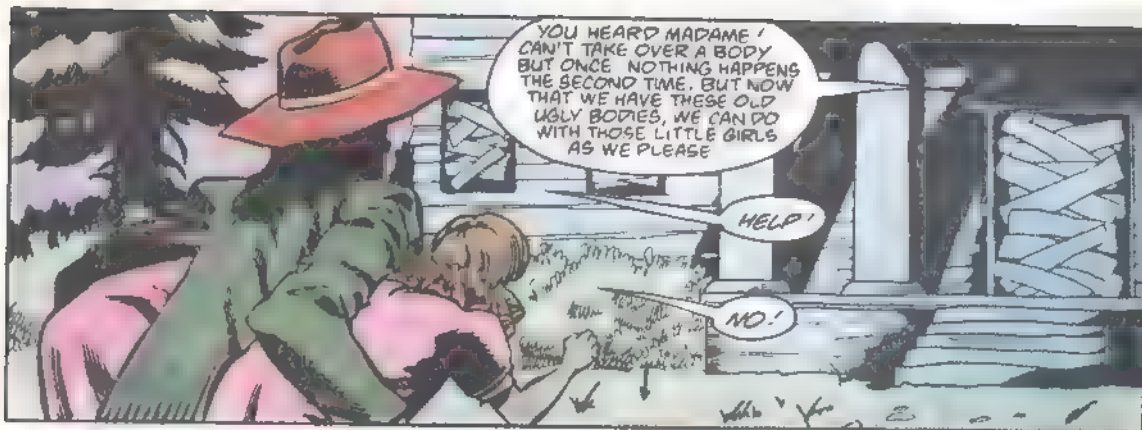
NOT LIKELY,  
UNLESS YOU TAKE  
OVER MISSY MABEL'S  
BODY



WHAT  
THEN?

THEN YOU GET IN THE  
CAR AND DRIVE AWAY. DON'T  
EVER COME BACK. I'D  
JES' AS SOON KILL YOU,  
ONCE WE TRADE BODIES.  
BUT I DON'T THINK THAT  
WOULD STOP YOU,  
WOULD IT?

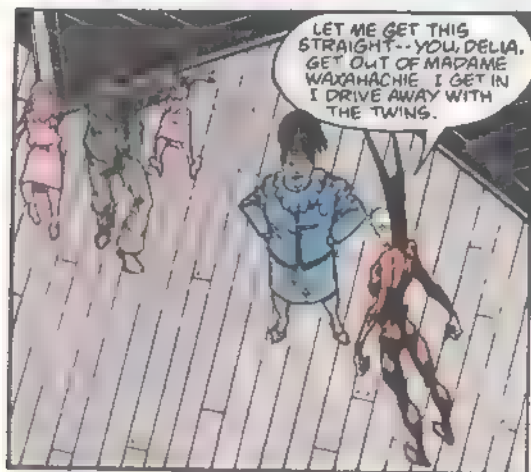
HOW DO I KNOW  
YOU'RE NOT GOING  
TO SIMPLY REPOSSSESS  
THOSE TWINN?



YOU HEARD MADAME I CAN'T TAKE OVER A BODY BUT ONCE NOTHING HAPPENS THE SECOND TIME. BUT NOW THAT WE HAVE THESE OLD UGLY BODIES, WE CAN DO WITH THOSE LITTLE GIRLS AS WE PLEASE

HELP!

NO!



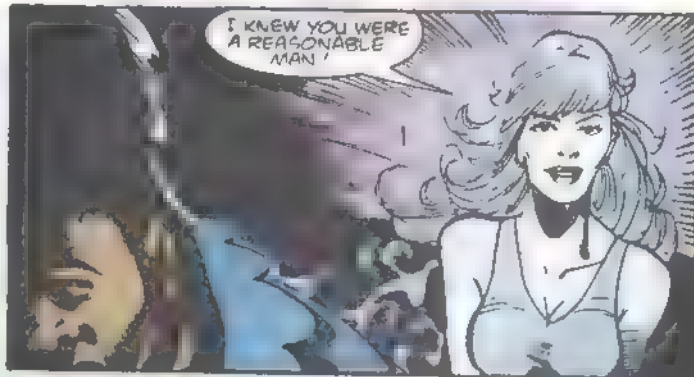
LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT--YOU, DELIA. GET OUT OF MADAME WAXAHACHIE. I GET IN I DRIVE AWAY WITH THE TWINS.



THE TWINS STAY HEAH WITH US TO INSURE YOUR COMPLIANCE



OKAY--STEP ASIDE.



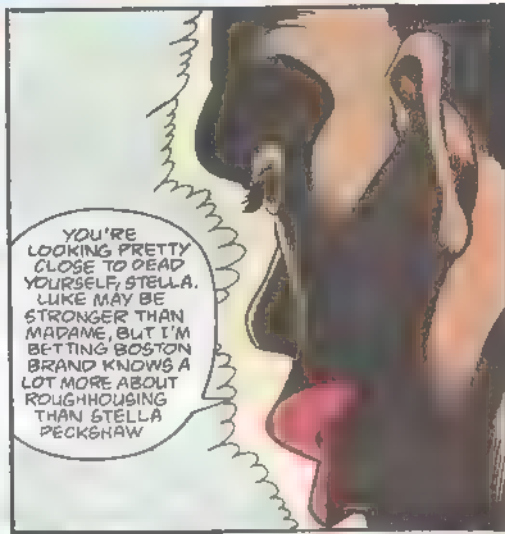
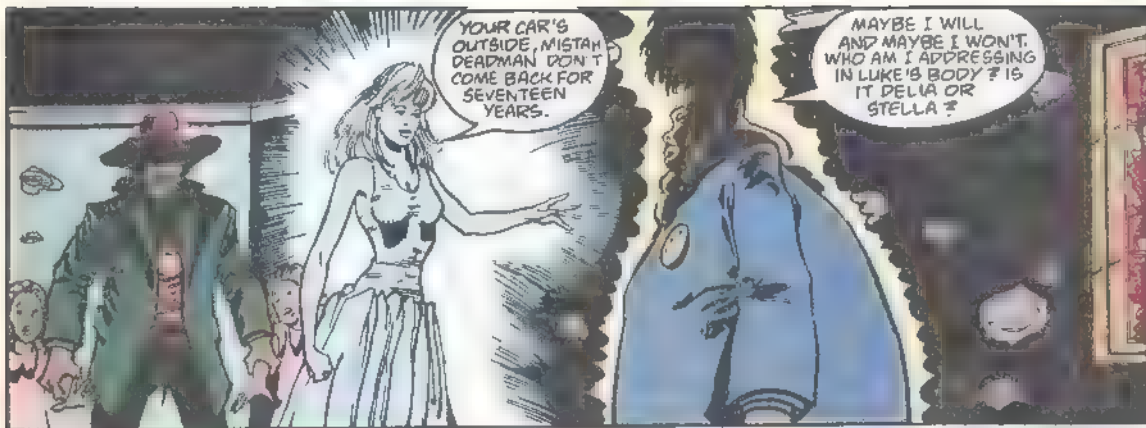
I KNEW YOU WERE A REASONABLE MAN!

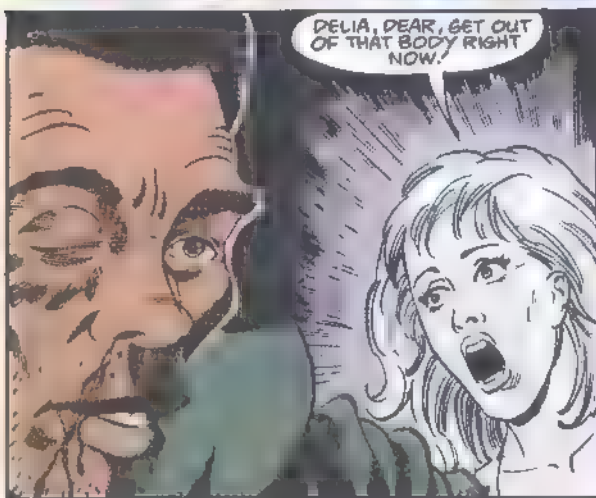
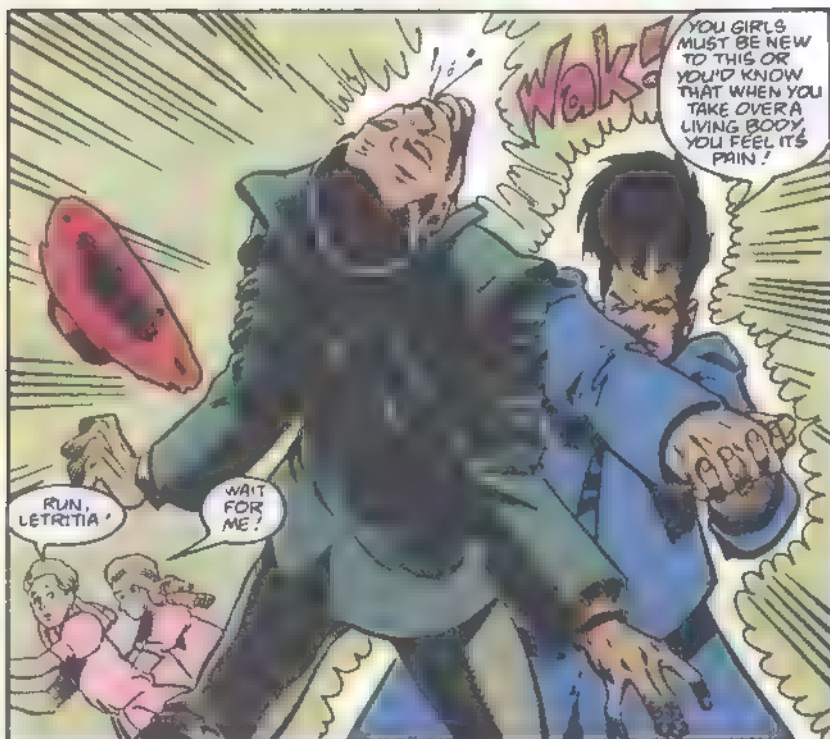


WHAT?

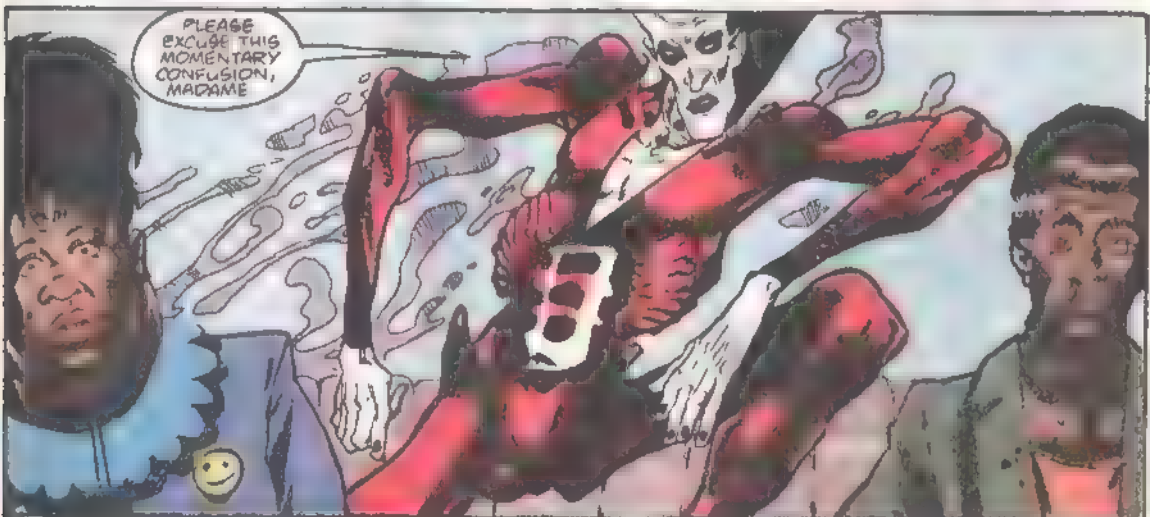
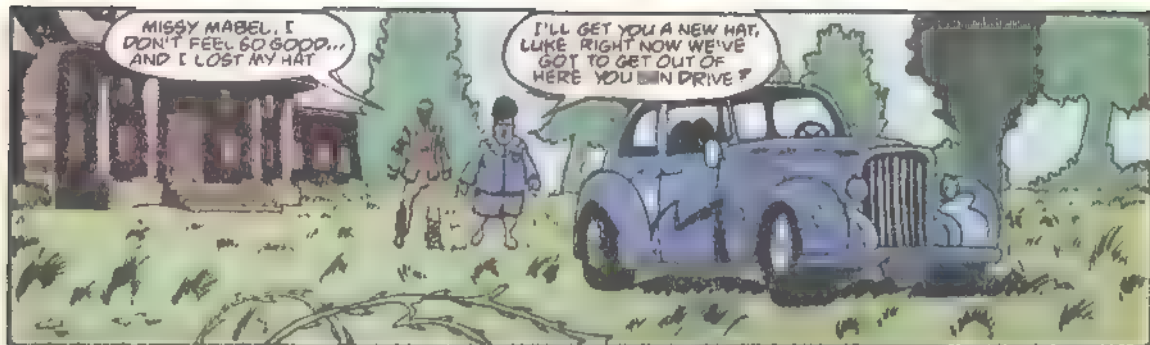
SORRY, MADAME. IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE YOUR PRECIOUS BROGGEN TWINS

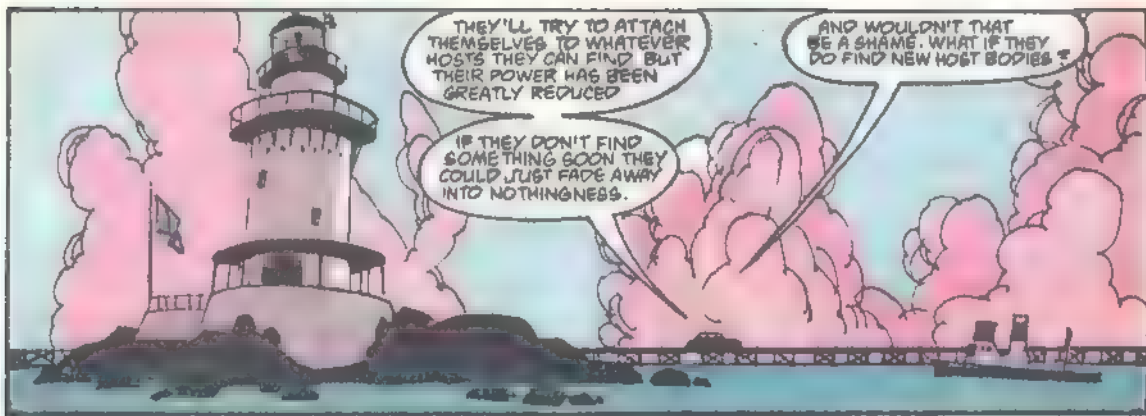












THEY'LL TRY TO ATTACH THEMSELVES TO WHATEVER HOSTS THEY CAN FIND BUT THEIR POWER HAS BEEN GREATLY REDUCED

IF THEY DON'T FIND SOMETHING SOON THEY COULD JUST FADE AWAY INTO NOTHINGNESS.

AND WOULDN'T THAT BE A SHAME. WHAT IF THEY DO FIND NEW HOST BODIES?

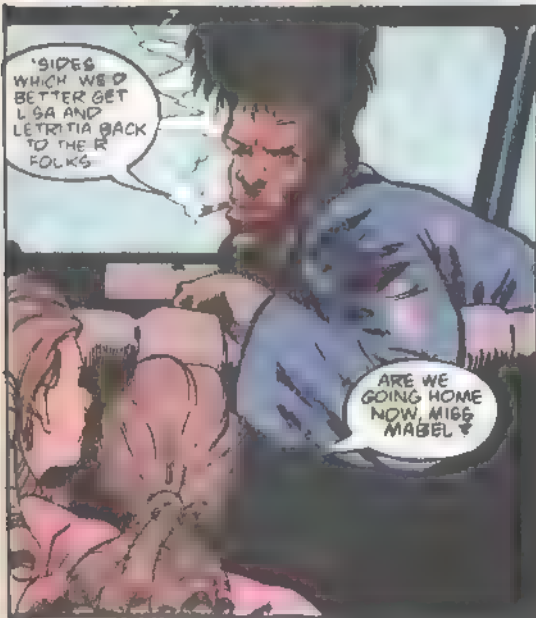


THEY COULD BUILD UP THEIR STRENGTH... START LOOKING FOR ANOTHER SET OF TWINS AND WITHIN SIX MONTHS THEY COULD BE BACK IN BUSINESS.



SHOULDN'T WE GO BACK AND TRY TO DESTROY THE BODIES?

NO SIR ' I'VE HAD ENOUGH TRUCKS WITH ZOMBIES TO LAST ME A LIFETIME.



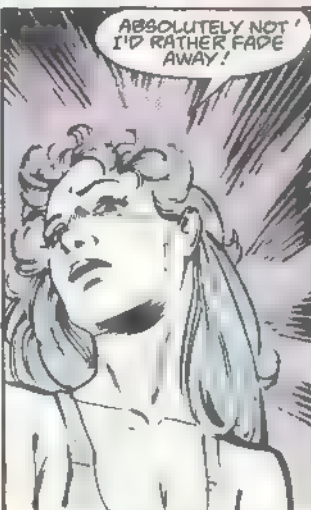
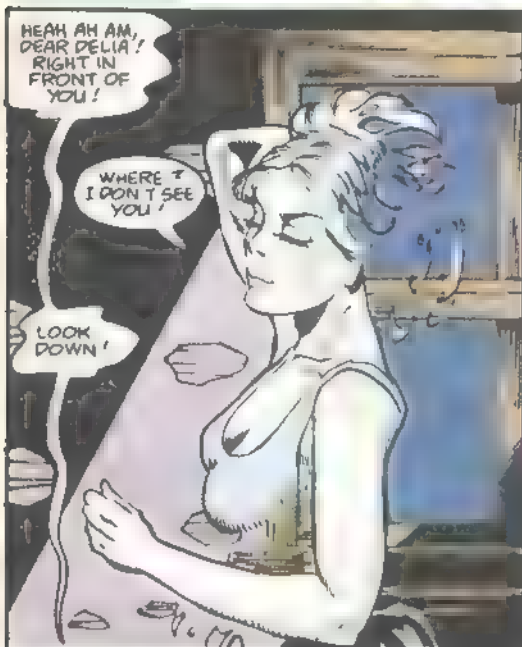
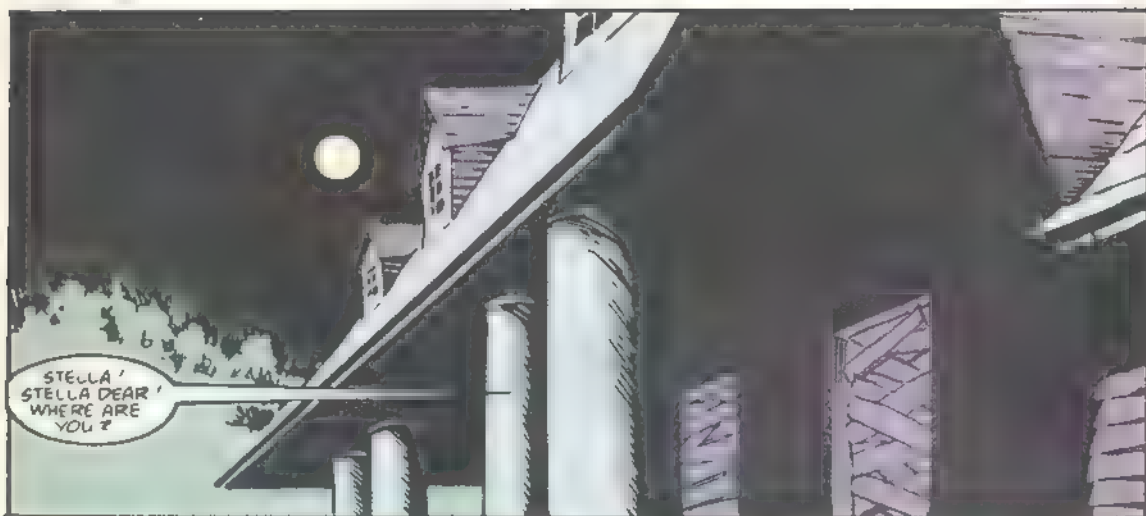
'SIDES WHICH WE'D BETTER GET LISA AND LETITIA BACK TO THEIR FOLKS

ARE WE GOING HOME NOW, MISS MABEL?



YES, GIRLS. WE'RE GOING HOME.





# ACTION

## COMICS WEEKLY

### DC COMICS INC.

666 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10103  
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L-3441

#### Dear Respondent

Wild Dog is an excellent feature. I hope DC will ASAP compile the stories as they finish, because such would make a fine gift addition to any library. What is ACTION COMICS WEEKLY's policy regarding covers? Terry Beatty has created some truly inspired covers for Renegade Press, and his Wild Dog covers surely did not suck. Without prejudice to any other artist, Terry Beatty Wild Dog covers for ACTION COMICS WEEKLY would make me a more eager customer.

I know of no other author writing comic books in America who writes crime stories as well as Max Collins. "Night Patrol" in issue #616 opened with a socko splash page that immediately grabbed my interest. Tight pacing presented a subtly intricate story.

The excerpts from Wild Dog's diary spoke volumes. Wild Dog is a vigilante who uses hi-tech to challenge knaves. Can he survive?

When Jesus was seized and arrested one of his companions drew a sword to defend him. "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword."

It is like vigilante abolitionist John Brown who did much good, helping slaves to freedom. He used terrorist tactics: he killed people. He was hanged. Even God's servants (Brown was sincere, his motive true), cannot escape Jesus' prophecy. Can Wild Dog?

The excerpt from the boy's diary reveals admiration of Wild Dog and a desire to emulate him. An old Jewish proverb: "Don't envy a violent man, nor choose any of his ways." The boy is guilty of the first and leaning toward the second.

Wild Dog may have to confront the moral truth of another old Jewish proverb: "A man of violence entices his neighbor and leads him to a way that is not good." Wild Dog is a violent man, and the boy is his 'neighbor' whom he is enticing.

The crime angle was perfectly done. The last panel was a classic hook for the next chapter: knife poised to strike, bringing us full circle to the corpse of the splash page.

The excerpts from the diary of a revenge-driven woman who becomes Wild Dog's latest quarry reveal that the motivations and violent methods of both protagonist and antagonist are disturbingly similar. Demarcation between right and wrong blurs while the prin-

cipal difference between the two characters is that the antagonist is less discriminating in the carrying out of her self-appointed mission, perhaps those who fall victim to her knife as she pursues her quarry are perfectly deserving of their fate. Perhaps John Brown's victims deserved what they got, too.

Is "Fatal Distraction" going to turn out to be another AIDS story? (Max Allan Collins has already done it in the latest murder mystery starring his Quad Cities character, Mellory.)

Mike Grell did a fine job on Blackhawk. Martin Pasko is doing a fine job on Blackhawk. Howard Chaykin's *American Flagg*, and Chuck Dixon's *Skywolf* got nothing on this baby. I even forgive DC for misspelling Prochazka.

Rick Burchett's Blackhawk can compete with Dave Stevens's *Rocketeer* any day. Sexually speaking, Prochazka is a slut. He dresses like a fascist, and, politically, he is a capitalist pig. This series is a hoot.

The Secret Six kept me buying ACTION COMICS WEEKLY while Wild Dog was on hiatus. Artist Dan Spiegle had a lot to do with it. He is a more than worthy successor to the artist of the original series (if memory serves, Jack Sparling).

The qualities that defined the original series, and made it a winner with me then—the spirit of expert teamwork grudgingly provided, and the mood of the mystery concerning Mockingbird—are retained and built upon successfully.

Catwoman barely kept me buying ACTION COMICS WEEKLY while Wild Dog and The Secret Six were on hiatus. It worked best when Catwoman was presented as silent and sinister. The story of greed and revenge was good. It need not be muddled with soap opera dialogue and moralizing; drop the cop. Also, lose the bold face lettering that emphasizes syllables.

Black Canary has *film noir* potential, but ended up artsy-fartsy. Why not hire Ann Nocenti? She does that better than anyone but Frank Miller (whom I wish you luck in securing for Canary).

Supes is solid; I say solid, reet? Murder, Jackson.

Green Lantern is an embarrassment to a fine tradition. Owsley's was, anyway. The court is still open on Peter David. Since Gil Kane's departure, the art has been a joke.

Nightwing is typical X-Titana. As Santa Barbara Turns At the Edge of One

Life For All My Children, I know it is someone's favorite cup of tea, but not mine. The art was copacetic.

David Malcolm Porta  
 3215 19th Ave  
 Sacramento, CA 95820

Copacetic?

.....

#### THE GREAT ACTION COMICS WEEKLY POLL

ACW #616 (previous issues standing in parenthesis)

- #1 - Green Lantern (#1)
- #2 - Nightwing (#2)
- #3 - Blackhawk (new)
- #4 - Wild Dog (new)
- #5 - Superman (#5)
- #6 - Black Canary (#6)

.....

#### Dear ACTION

I notice Superman usually placed on or near the bottom of the weekly poll. I don't think he's getting a fair shake.

If you're thinking of dropping him, or radically changing him due to his poor standing, there's something you should consider. A few years ago, a noted science fiction magazine polled readers about favorite stories, and noticed that novelettes had a decided edge over short stories in the results.

The editor theorized that a story of greater length is more likely to stick in a reader's mind. A longer story has more time to inspire emotional involvement.

I suspect most readers (like me) enjoy Superman just as much as the other stories while actually reading it, but if asked later to rate the stories would almost automatically place a two-pager below an eight-pager.

It's like comparing boxers of different weight classes. Some people would consider Sugar Ray Leonard the all-time greatest boxer, but wouldn't bet on him if he were fighting the tenth best heavyweight.

The Superman strip is great, but don't expect the polls to indicate this.

Mike "The Big M" Allen  
 2089 Caroline St. #A  
 Burlington, Ontario L7R 1L5  
 CANADA

.....



Dear Actioneers,

Wild Dog's back and he sure is back with a blast—both on the cover of #615 and in the story inside. In fact, "blast" seems the operative word here, as he quickly resumes his assault on criminals. In some ways, it is a wonder that so many people in the story's public are so supportive of such a gun-happy vigilante.

In this issue, I am not so sure that the convenience store clerk would be so happy to have the thugs gunned down in front of her. Of course, in being so grateful, maybe she was thinking of the harm they might have done to her, rather than the danger of being caught by stray bullets from Wild Dog's fire.

Another character is back and it started off with at least a bit of hope, as Blackhawk refused to throw in with some opium smugglers. But if any readers were fearful that such a highly moralistic decision was a signal that he was in danger of turning into a goodie two-shoes, they needn't have worried—as revelations about his place of residence and his idea of "fringe benefits" (and we're not talking dental plans here—at least not a dental plan as in one that dentists administer!) quickly showed that he hasn't changed much since his last appearance here.

I guess I just don't agree with the portrayal that has been chosen for him. It is too bad that the good name of Blackhawk must be sullied. I agree with Hurricane Heeran's sentiment expressed in the lettercol—a new character should have been created rather than adopting the name of a great and (previously) quite different hero.

Green Lantern's feature has improved of late. Perhaps the previous desertions of Hal by his friends can be forgotten or explained away (they were certainly inexplicable when they happened). And while I'm not too pleased with the stories that dealt with Hal's fearless character (I had always taken the "men without fear" bit metaphorically, rather than literally), he has been portrayed more humanistically in the past.

In the Nightwing feature, Cheshire continues to be a fascinating character—as is Speedy's involvement with her. Her ruthless public persona is well-contrasted with her private role as mother. Like most criminals, she has no empathy. If she realized that those she kills love and are loved as much as she loves her child, maybe she would not be a killer. On the other hand, maybe she would—but empathy is at least the first step toward self-inhibition of criminal acts.

I must say that I agree with Steven J. Hanna in #615's lettercol, that we should not just rank the stories when we vote, but grade them on a scale of 1 to 10 (or whatever). For instance, I may feel that the fifth ranked story is still pretty good, rating a 7 or whatever. Or I may feel that the third ranked story is not too good and rate it low.

And gee, Brian, I've got to admit that you saw right through my ruse with the name bit! You didn't believe that Jim

Burke is my real name—and why should you? After all, how can such a goofy name be real? Yes, it's just another pseudonym! My real name is, in fact, Skippy La Plume. (And that's the honest truth! I mean, obviously, it couldn't be a pen name, could it?)

Skippy La Plume, aka Jim Burke,  
aka "T.M. Maple"  
Box 1272, Station B  
Weston, Ontario M9L 2R9  
CANADA

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Mike,

T.M. Maple is Jim Burke? Huh?

J.C. Andrews  
(Address Withheld)

\*\*\*\*\*

A note of importance from DC production ace Steven Bové:

"I don't know how it happened. I thought it was quite plain. In the preparation of the mechanical art, there are a variety of shorthand symbols the artist can use to tell the color separator and the printer how to get the job done.

"Obviously, I used one that was never seen before, and the result was the odd color composition of the lettercol in ACW #616.

"Luckily, Mike and Brian are easy-going kind of guys and laughed it off. DRAGONLANCE colorist Daniel Vozzo said, 'I told you not to sand it out like that.' Oh well, hope everyone liked the dots."

—Bové, Production

Actually, Steve, we rather liked the dots. After all, variety is the spice of life. And we're looking forward to those stripes.

Dear Mike and Brian

Where is Robert Edward "Keep Smiling" Greenberger in your masthead? Was the shock of "T.M. Maple" revealed too much for him?

I was there when "T.M. Maple" revealed himself. That'll definitely be something to tell my grandchildren.

Charles J. Sperling  
Apt. 4-C

37-15 Parsons Boulevard  
Flushing, NY 11354

You were there when "T.M. Maple" revealed himself? Look, this is a family comic, Charles.

Oh, yeah. Bob Greenberger was kidnapped by the production gremlins. He's back now.

\*\*\*\*\*

Next week: Green Lantern, Superman, Nightwing, Black Canary, Secret Six and the mysterious return of The Phantom Stranger. Don't miss it.

See you in seven!

—Mike Gold

\*\*\*\*\* VOTE! \*\*\*\*\*

Just as soon as you've finished this issue of ACTION COMICS WEEKLY—write us a letter or a postcard and rank this issue's stories in order of preference: the one you like the most first, the one you liked second, and so on. Each week, we'll tally the vote and print the results right here in our letter column. Your opinion counts, so VOTE!

Send your ballots to:

Action Comics Weekly  
Department 626  
DC Comics Inc.  
666 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10103



# BLACK CANARY

knock 'em  
**DEAD**

**PART 3**

Sharon Wright writer

Randy DuBurke penciller

Pablo Marcos inker

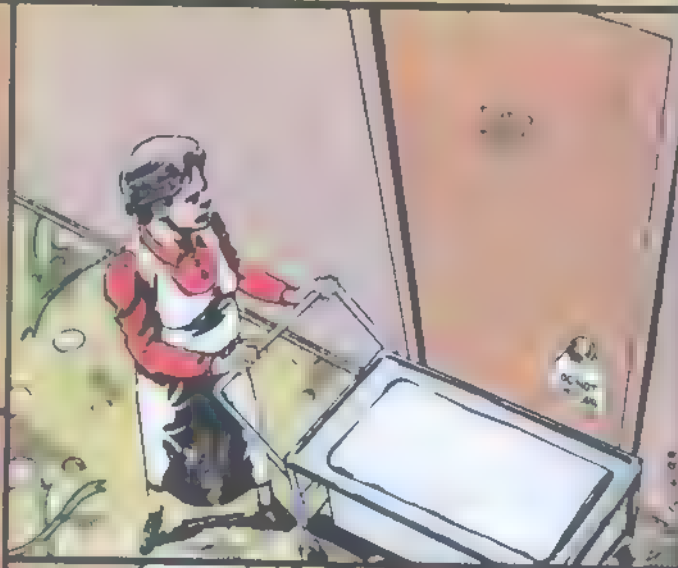
Steve Haynie letterer

Gene D'Angelo colorist

Robert Greenberger editor

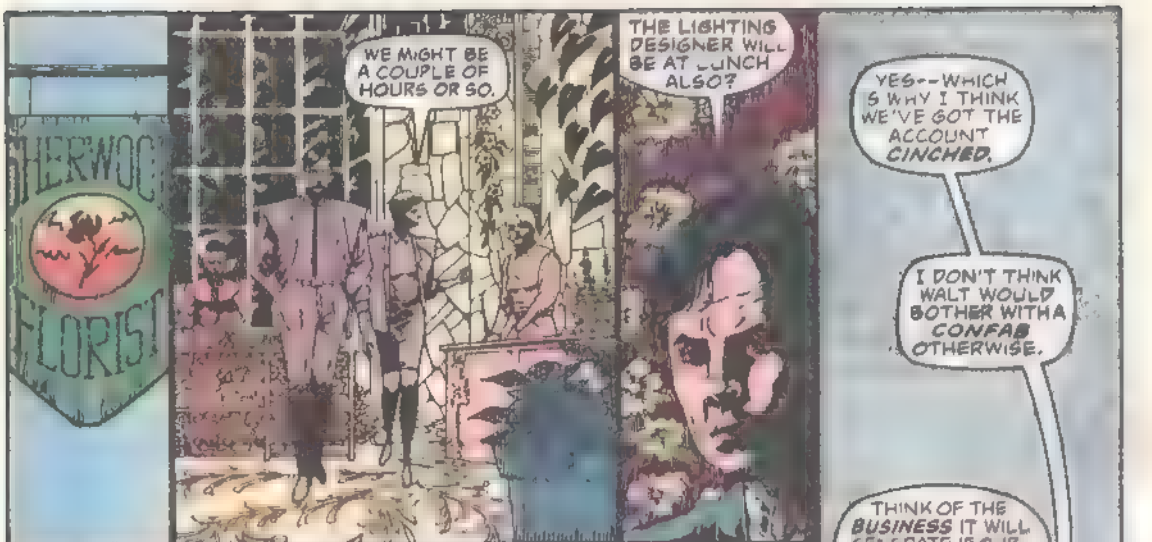


KNOCK  
KNOCK  
5E



MAID.





YES--WHICH IS WHY I THINK WE'VE GOT THE ACCOUNT CINCHED.

I DON'T THINK WALT WOULD BOTHER WITH A CONFAB OTHERWISE.

THINK OF THE BUSINESS IT WILL GENERATE IF OUR ARRANGEMENTS ARE SEEN IN MACY'S WINDOWS

WOW.

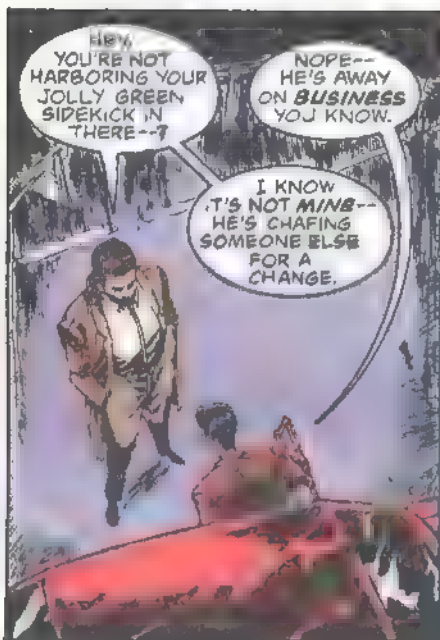


WHAT'S GOING ON, LIEUTENANT CAMERON?

WHO--?

DINAH LANCE.

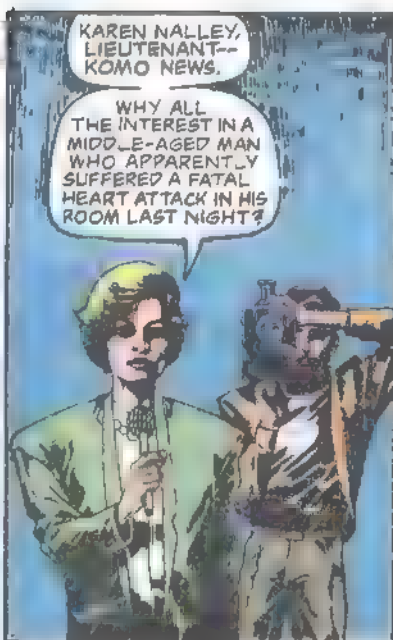




HEY,  
YOU'RE NOT  
HARBORING YOUR  
JOLLY GREEN  
SIDEKICK IN  
THERE--?

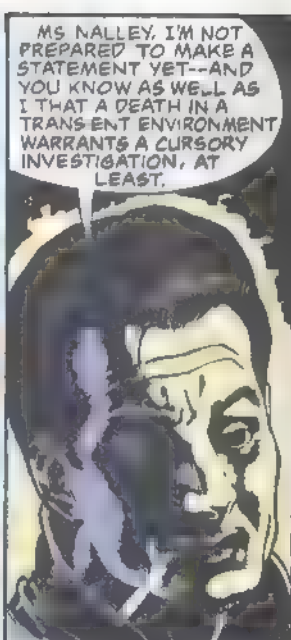
NOPE--  
HE'S AWAY  
ON **BUSINESS**  
YOU KNOW.

I KNOW  
IT'S NOT **MINE**--  
HE'S CHAFING  
SOMEONE ELSE  
FOR A  
CHANGE.

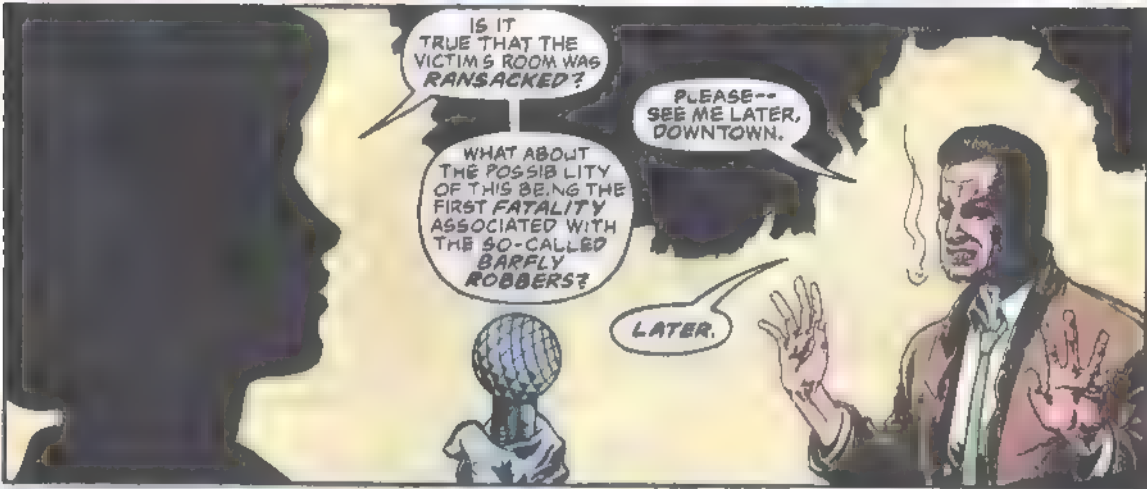


KAREN NALLEY,  
LIEUTENANT--  
KOMO NEWS.

WHY ALL  
THE INTEREST IN A  
MIDDLE-AGED MAN  
WHO APPARENTLY  
SUFFERED A FATAL  
HEART ATTACK IN HIS  
ROOM LAST NIGHT?



MS NALLEY, I'M NOT  
PREPARED TO MAKE A  
STATEMENT YET--AND  
YOU KNOW AS WELL AS  
I THAT A DEATH IN A  
TRANSIENT ENVIRONMENT  
WARRANTS A CURSORY  
INVESTIGATION, AT  
LEAST.



IS IT  
TRUE THAT THE  
VICTIM'S ROOM WAS  
**RANSACKED**?

PLEASE--  
SEE ME LATER,  
DOWNTOWN.

WHAT ABOUT  
THE POSSIB LITY  
OF THIS BEING THE  
FIRST **FATALITY**  
ASSOCIATED WITH  
THE SO-CALLED  
**BARFLY**  
**ROBBERS**?

LATER.



CRIPES--THEY  
MUST HAVE A  
DIRECT LINE TO  
**JEAN DIXON**.

I DO THINK ONE OF OUR  
**BARFLY** BABES FINALLY GOT  
CARRIED AWAY--IT HAS ALL  
THE EARMARKS

LIEUTENANT,  
WHO'S--?

EXCUSE  
ME...



I WAS SUPPOSED  
TO MEET **WALT SARNO**  
FOR LUNCH.

HOW  
DID HE  
DIE??







EVENING BLUSHES  
THE CITY WITH  
DIMMING REDS...

...AND IN THE SEATTLE PARKS,  
HEALTH NUTS AND TWILIGHT  
STROLLERS CONVERGE, THICKER  
THAN THE LENGTHENING SHADOWS.

...AND IN  
OTHER LOCAL NEWS--  
A NEW YORK MAN WAS  
DISCOVERED BY A MAID  
DEAD IN HIS ROOM AT  
THE RED LION  
HOTEL.

...WHAT WAS THOUGHT TO  
BE A SIMPLE **HEART ATTACK**  
IS NOT BEING TREATED AS  
SUCH BY SEATTLE POLICE  
AFTER IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT  
THE VICTIM'S CORONARY WAS  
INDUCED BY AN OVERDOSE OF  
**CHLORAL HYDRATE**...

...THOUGH A POLICE  
SPOKESMAN SAYS THERE ARE  
NO CONCRETE LEADS, THEY ARE WELL  
AWARE OF AN INCREASE IN THE  
POPULARLY TERMED "BARFLY ROBBERS"  
YOUNG WOMEN WHO PICK UP A  
POTENTIAL VICTIM IN A POPULAR NIGHT  
SPOT, AND THEN INCAPACITATE THE  
MAN AFTER RETURNING TO HIS DOMICILE,  
TAKING WHATEVER THEY CAN FROM  
THE PREMISES.



CHLORAL  
HYDRATE IS AN  
EFFECTIVE AND  
WIDESPREAD  
METHOD OF  
RENDERING THE  
VICTIM  
UNCONSCIOUS...



...AUTHORITIES  
HAVE FORESEEN THE  
POSSIBILITY...

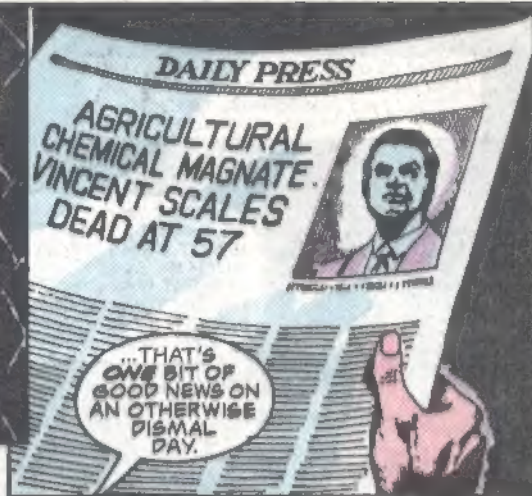


THAT'S  
IT.





WELL,  
WELL...



**DAILY PRESS**  
**AGRICULTURAL  
CHEMICAL MAGNATE.  
VINCENT SCALES  
DEAD AT 57**

...THAT'S  
ONE BIT OF  
GOOD NEWS ON  
AN OTHERWISE  
DISMAL  
DAY.

NO NEW  
INFO ON WALT  
SARNO'S DEATH,  
THOUGH.

OH,  
CRAP!



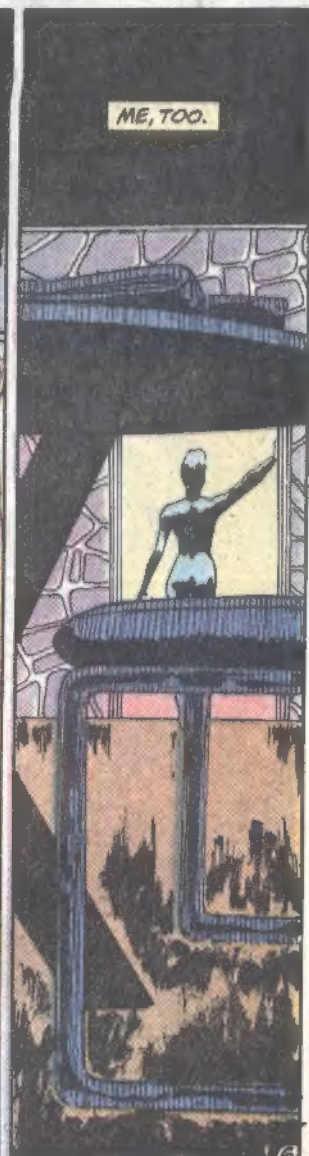
I'VE GOT  
TO CALL  
MARILYN  
MEYERS BACK  
ABOUT THE  
PLAY.

BUT NOT  
TONIGHT.



WONDER WHERE  
OLIVER IS TONIGHT...

...OFF CHASING  
SHADOWS.



ME, TOO.





**CONTINUED...**